

COOL PS2 STRATEGIES

SSX, PS2 MADDEN, ESPN TRACK AND FIELD, TONY HAWK 2 PLUS ALL THE LATEST TRICKS!

ZIFF DAVIS

December 2000
ISSUE 39



OFFICIAL U.S. PlayStation MAGAZINE



**Did You
Get Your
PS2 Yet?**

Hot New PS2 Titles:

**GRAN
TURISMO 3**
and
**TWISTED
METAL:
BLACK**

**18 PS2
REVIEWS!**

TimeSplitters

Silent Scope

Orphen

FIFA 2001

Smuggler's Run

Midnight Club

Summoner

Tekken Tag Tournament

The Bandicoot's Final Party?

**CRASH
BASH**

**HISTORY OF
CONSOLE LAUNCHES**

**How does the PlayStation 2
Launch Stack Up?**

SHAQ

**Exclusive Interview with
the Star of NBA Hoopz**

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EXCLUSIVE DEMO DISC

**Madden NFL 2001, Disney's The Emperor's New Groove,
Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX, MTV Sports: Pure Ride, Star
Wars Demolition, Muppet Race Mania, 102 Dalmations**

Dec. 2000

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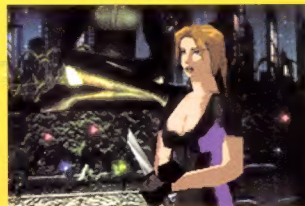
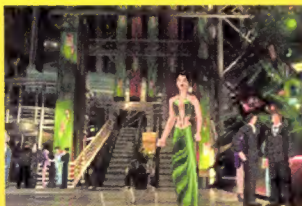


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PlayStation 2



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8 ROCKSTAR 575BWY

9 ROCKSTAR 575BWY

10 ROCKSTAR 575BWY

11 ROCKSTAR 575BWY



8 6A

9 9A

10 10A

11 11A



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SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON GUIDANCE RECORDINGS

ROCKSTAR STUDIOS

10

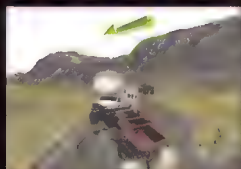
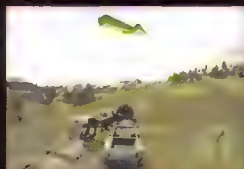
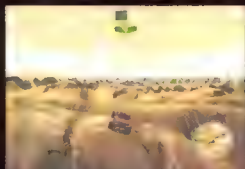
ROCKSTAR STUDIOS

11

ROCKSTAR STUDIOS

12

ROCKSTAR STUDIOS



PlayStation 2

PC

James O. Collier



EVERYONE
E
CONSIDER RATED BY
THE MPAA AS



EATAMUS MAXIMUS PUCKAMUS

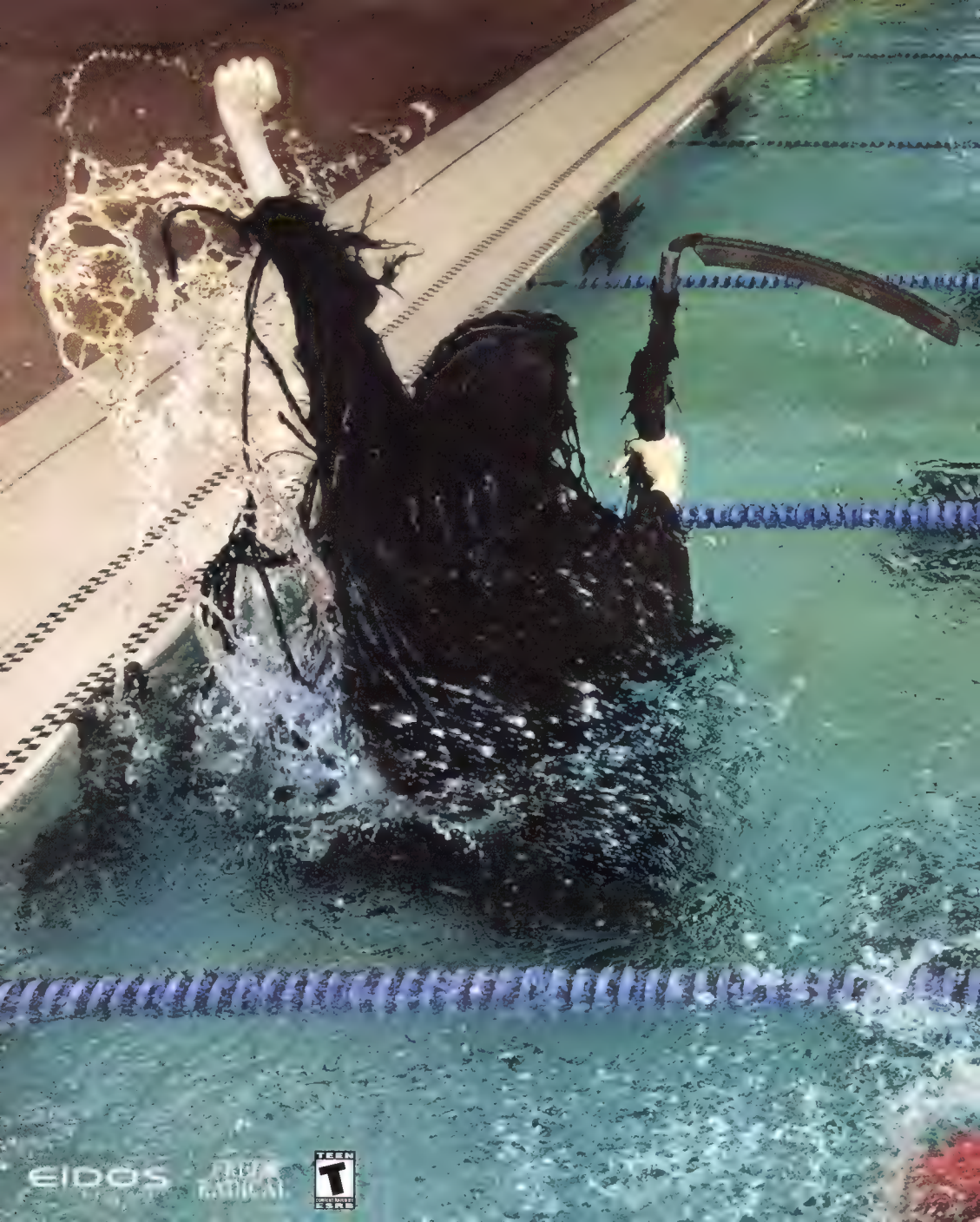
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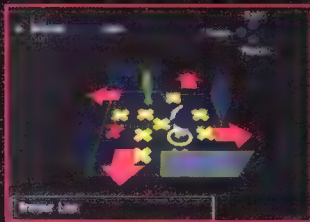
PlayStation 2



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COVER STORIES THIS MONTH



CRASH BASH • 138

After a hiatus, the last time we saw Crash and his friends was in the PlayStation 2 game *Crash Bash*. Now they're back with a bang in *Crash Bash*. What's new? What's old? What's the same? What's the best? What's the worst? What's the best? What's the worst?



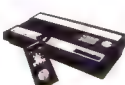
GRAN TURISMO 3 AND TWISTED METAL: BLACK • 110

Gran Turismo 3 and Twisted Metal: Black are the exclusive demo discs for the Official U.S. PlayStation Magazine. Gran Turismo 3 has a new look and feel, and Twisted Metal: Black has never looked better than in the new PlayStation 2.



SHAQ • 56

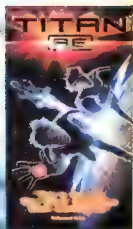
Shaq is the new NBA player in the exclusive interview with the NBA MVP. Check out his game in the NBA Hoopz from Midway.



HISTORY OF CONSOLE LAUNCHES • 66

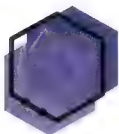
There may have been only one PlayStation 2 game launch event, but it was the biggest launch event in the history of the PlayStation 2. It was the biggest launch event in the history of the PlayStation 2. It was the biggest launch event in the history of the PlayStation 2.

When you're tired of playing games.



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CONTENTS



page 70

DEPARTMENTS

Demo Disc • 24

Everything you need to know to get our exclusive disc up and running.

Input • 31

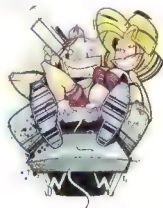
Let us know your thoughts. Write us at our usual address or send us e-mail at OPM@ziffdavis.com.

Spin • 42

News and commentary on the recent FTC ruling on violent content, and goodies from the Tokyo Game Show. Also, we rate the top DVD online stores to see which is the best place to order movies.

Top Secrets • 182

Tips and tricks to the first batch of PS2 games, including the amazing SSX. Plus all the latest cheats for PS one AND more Chrono Cross.



Video Games Have Ratings, Just Like Movies

The Entertainment Software Rating Board provides information about video game content. ESRB ratings are intended as guidelines; parents should still monitor minors' purchases.

Crash turns up every year



John Davison
Editor in Chief

on the cover of this magazine, and each time he's been a part of something that really pushes the PlayStation. He's been at the heart of one of the most successful games franchises of all time, and now it looks like everything is going to change. Crash Bash, the focus of our cover story this month, isn't a particularly great game. It takes a great idea from another franchise on another system and forces it into an environment where it doesn't work very well. This is a crying shame. Crash has been a very bright star over the past five years. Let's hope that Jason "Creator of Crash" Rubin's comment in his editorial this month that this may be Crash's "Fat Elvis" period isn't true.

On a completely different note, this is our first issue serving both PS one and PS2 owners. We hope you all find the info you want within our pages. If you want to see more or less of anything, make sure you e-mail us at OPM@ziffdavis.com. Want to see more PS2 coverage? Less? More entertainment or DVD coverage? Send us your feelings and we'll make sure we adapt the magazine to your whim.



EARLY CHILDHOOD RATING



EVERYONE RATING



TEEN RATING



MATURE RATING



ADULTS ONLY RATING

WWW.ESRB.COM

DEMO DISC THIS MONTH

December 2000

PlayStation



PLAYABLE DEMOS



MADDEN NFL 2001

When it comes to the best version of the game, Madden NFL 2001 is the tightest, most complete, and most enjoyable to graphics, that this demo you will have. This demo you will have a team to play in the two.

STAR WARS: DEMOLITION RATING PENDING

The Star Wars franchise has been pulled and pushed and stretched on the PS one across all genres, and you can now add vehicular combat to that lengthy list. Who doesn't love the idea of having a Rancor monster battle Boba?

MAT HOFFMAN'S PRO BMX EVERYONE RATING

Activision continues its assault on extreme sports with Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX. This demo you will have a bike to play in the two.

DISNEY'S THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE EVERYONE RATING

Disney's The Emperor's New Groove is a game that has been turned into a llama by his shady mentor. The game is a pretty decent soundtrack.

MTV SPORTS: PURE RIDE EVERYONE RATING

MTV Sports: Pure Ride is where you can play and snowboards, into the snow. It's a pretty decent soundtrack.

NON-PLAYABLE DEMOS

MUPPET RACE MANIA, 102 DALMATIONS

view the Muppet Race Mania demo and wonder at the same question we've been puzzling over all month: Why is it so amusing that a muppet on a go cart? Probably, but we can't think of any right off. Also, you can check out the 102 Dalmations demo, to tell us, was there one dalmatian that didn't have spots?

An invitation to Mars isn't an honor...

The newest addition to the Armored Core series allows you to go head-to-head in relentless battles using an endless combination of parts. Never before have you been given so many options for configuring your AC unit for non-stop action - especially with graphics that dazzle the imagination. Choose between solo missions or vs. friends in 2-player split screen or linked combat sorties.



Amazingly detailed ARMORED CORE 2 action figures will be available soon at Comic Book and Specialty stores everywhere. Call 1-888-COMIC-BOOK or go online at <http://csis.diamondcomics.com> to find the store nearest you.



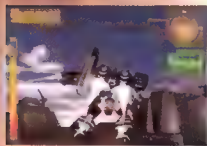
For more information on the Armored Core 2 action figures, visit www.kotex.com

...it's a death sentence.

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- Over Boost Propulsion generates lightning speed for AC units.
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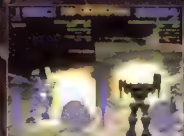
Enhanced propulsion technology



Customize your A.C. for maximum damage



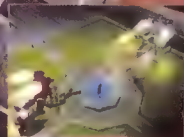
Destroy!!!



Challenge a friend in 2-player split-screen action



Wield an energy blade in close-quarters combat



Destroy the enemy with your energy blade

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THE GRINCH™

As the grumpy Grinch, your **mission** is clear.

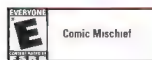
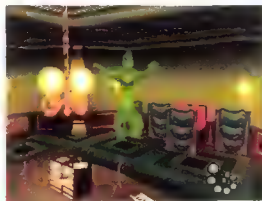
To **Slime**, Stomp and Smash everything far and near.

With Gizmos and **Gadgets**, a heart that's too small

Disrupt all in **Whoville**, from short Whos to tall.

And why should your grinchy ways bring such **pride**?

For that warm, **fuzzy** feeling it gives you inside.



*The Grinch™ Interactive game™ © 2000 Universal Interactive Studios Inc. Based on "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"™ by Dr. Seuss™. Created by Universal Interactive Studios. Licensed by Universal Interactive Studios. All Rights Reserved. PlayStation™ and the PS™ Family logo are registered trademarks of Sony Computer Entertainment Inc. Dreamcast and the Dreamcast logo are registered trademarks of Sega Corporation. Game Boy Color™ is a registered trademark of Nintendo. Atari™ and the Atari logo are registered trademarks of Atari Corporation. Universal Interactive Studios is a registered trademark of Universal Interactive Studios Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.



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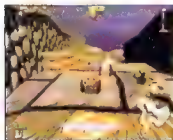
- Rotten Egg Target Practice
- Test Rocket Spring on Max
- Grease Copter Propeller
- Triple-Check Love Shield
- Practice Grinchy Looks
- Buy Tub-O-Slime





DEMO DISC

Non-Playable Demos



Muppet Race Mania

PLAYERS 1-2 • AVAILABILITY NOW •
DEVELOPER TRAVELLER'S TALES •
PUBLISHER MIDWAY • GENRE RACING



102 Dalmations

PLAYERS 1 • AVAILABILITY NOVEMBER •
DEVELOPER CRYSTAL DYNAMICS •
PUBLISHER EIDOS • GENRE ACTION

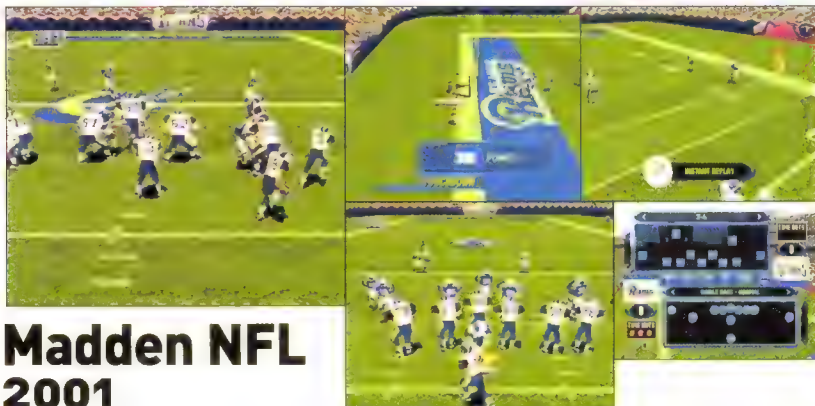
Next Month's Demo Disc

Playables:

Spider-Man, Driver 2:
The Wheelman Is Back,
The Grinch, 102 Dalmations,
Army Men Air Attack 2

Non-Playables:

Medal of Honor
Underground



Madden NFL 2001

What is it?

A video game that simulates the experience of playing American football. It's a team game, where you control one team and try to score points by running with the ball, passing it, or kicking it. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team.

What to expect in the full game

The game is a simulation of the NFL, and it's a team game. You can play as any of the 32 teams in the league, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is a simulation of the NFL, and it's a team game. You can play as any of the 32 teams in the league, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team.

Our advice

Don't be afraid to use the controls. The game is a simulation of the NFL, and it's a team game. You can play as any of the 32 teams in the league, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is a simulation of the NFL, and it's a team game. You can play as any of the 32 teams in the league, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team.

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OPM psychic sez

Translated into common English, Madden NFL 2001 is a team game. You can play as any of the 32 teams in the league, and you can control individual players or the entire team. The game is played on a virtual field, and you can control individual players or the entire team.

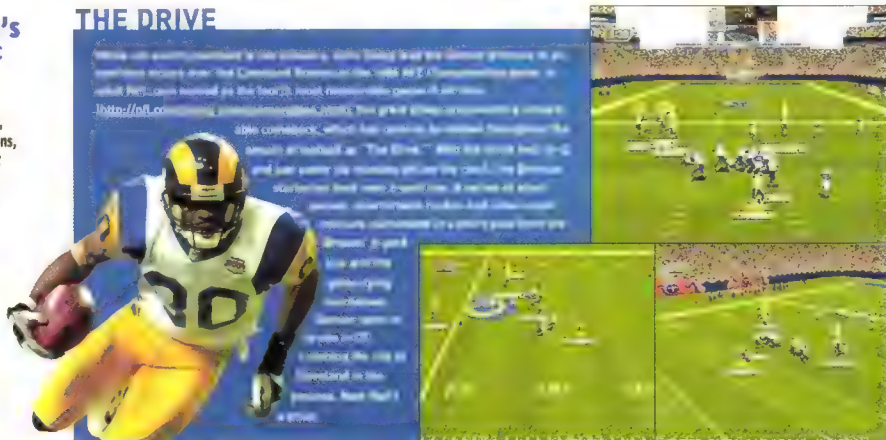


△ JUMP
□ DIVE
○ SPIN
X SPEED BURST

L1 VIEW RECEIVERS
L2 AUDIBLE
R1 VIEW RECEIVERS
R2 STIFF ARM

PLAYERS 1-10 • AVAILABILITY NOW • DEVELOPER EA SPORTS • PUBLISHER ELECTRONIC ARTS • GENRE SPORTS

THE DRIVE



**Keep Your Eye
on the Ball**

Get distracted and
Gabby Reece
will hurt you with her
dominant beach game.

The **crushing serve...** the
perfect pass... the **lethal
kill.** Keep focused - your
dreams of Sydney, Acapulco
and Rio could be history.
There's a lot of sand to cover.
The sun's blinding.

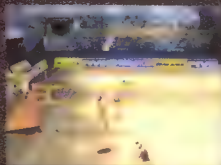
You must play your game.
Gabby will show you how.



Rule the beach as Gabby Reece
or more than 40 other FIVB pros



Feel the thrill of the FIVB World Tour



Use Incredible Moves
Last-second Digs, Off-the-Net,
huge Power Spikes and More

power SPIKE

PRO BEACH VOLLEYBALL



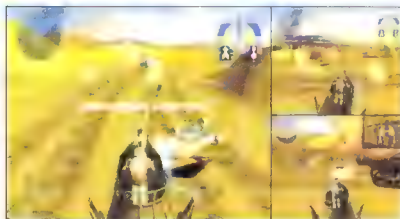
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Star Wars Demolition

It's becoming difficult to find a genre that the Star Wars universe can't be applied to: action (Jedi Power Battles), adventure (The Phantom Menace), massively multi-player online RPG (The Eventus), online RPG (Light's and X-Wing series), racing (Pod Racer) and even kart racing (Super Bomberman). We add another to the list: vehicular combat. The House that the Metal Built now has AT-ATs battling Rancor monsters in all of your favorite Star Wars locales. But don't write it off as a cheap license cash-in, just yet. Star Wars Demolition is being developed by Luxoflux, the brains behind Vg Lanie 8, and a team that has shown somewhat of a pedigree in the genre.

The demo includes only Luke's wimpy X-wing (the Star Wars equivalent of an AMT Gremlin) and a Droid (skiff from Return of the Jedi)—appropriate, since the galaxy's and world of Tatooine is the available battleground. Utilize the recharge pods, charge up both primary and secondary weapons, and always keep an eye on your radar. The finished version will have 13 selectable craft, some hidden and areas including Yavin IV, Naboo, Death Star II and Cloud City. We'll see how the Rancor is going to tear it apart.

Vehicular Combat is a quality recreation of activity and all, but if you want to see some real Star Wars demolition work, head on over to www.raverpants.org/skip to witness what happens when the resident OPM contributing college kid/demo ship writer collapses under the stress of final exams. The AT-AT talked a big game, but was no match for the ill-tempered giant. Warning: low-budget video ahead.

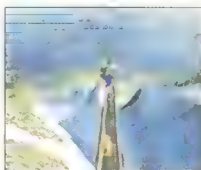


PLAYERS 1-2 • AVAILABILITY NOVEMBER • DEVELOPER LUXOFLUX • PUBLISHER LUCASARTS • GENRE ACTION

MTV Sports Pure Ride

Writing this introduction to the OPM demo is going to start off demo writeups of extreme sports titles. As an accomplished writer as he is, the English language can only do so much.

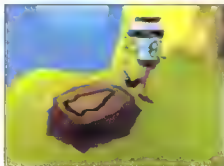
So this writer is going to let you make your own intro for MTV Sports Pure Ride. Just combine any of the following words and phrases: snow boarding, Britney Spears, TRL, hip-hop soundtrack, "xtreme," shredding the white stuff, result of a lack of a proper warm-up, that's it.



PLAYERS 1-2 • AVAILABILITY NOW • DEVELOPER RADICAL ENTERTAINMENT • PUBLISHER THQ • GENRE SPORTS

Disney's The Emperor's New Groove

If you didn't already know about Disney's newest animated feature-length film, this demo ought to clue you in. Apparently set in Incan times (you can't always be sure with Disney, they tend to stretch things), the film/game stars young Emperor Kuzco, who has been turned into a llama by his crooked mentor Yzma. Objective? Save the throne and return Kuzco to human form. The game feels and plays very much like Spyro the Dragon.



PLAYERS 1 • AVAILABILITY NOVEMBER • DEVELOPER ARGONAUT • PUBLISHER SONY CEA • GENRE ACTION



Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX

Skater? It seems that once again it must be done. The game that revolu-

tionized the sport of BMX is back. Skate, grind, flip, and jump. Triangle to perform grinds and stalls, Square for air and Circle for spin. Combine the air and spin buttons with a press on the

couldn't do in THPS, but it's not too complicated. Jump in between stalls

and do a small air trick, then, and in a stall on a nearby ledge.

Oh, and scraping your knee from falling off a skateboard is nothing compared with the potential of pain that riding on a bike entails.



PLAYERS 1-2 • AVAILABILITY NOVEMBER • DEVELOPER REVERSON • PUBLISHER ACTIVISION • GENRE SPORTS

Disc Problems?

Did you buy a copy of our magazine that did not contain a demo CD? Simply send the receipt in an envelope marked "OPM Replacement Disc" to the address below with the name and address of the store plus your phone number and address and we'll send you the disc. Make sure you specify which month the corresponding disc belongs to in order to ensure you get the right one.

Also, if you have a malfunctioning or non-working demo disc, call SCEA at 1-800-345-SONY. They will provide instructions to obtain repair or replacement services.

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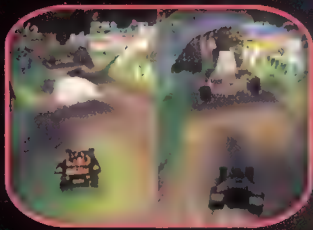
Crash & Bash
your way through
eight hazard-filled
environments



Supercharge
your vehicle
with a turbo injection
of high-speed energy



Play Off-Road
bumper cars
with split-screen
head-to-head racing



Smoke
your opponent
in Battle Mode.
One of five hair-raising
modes of play



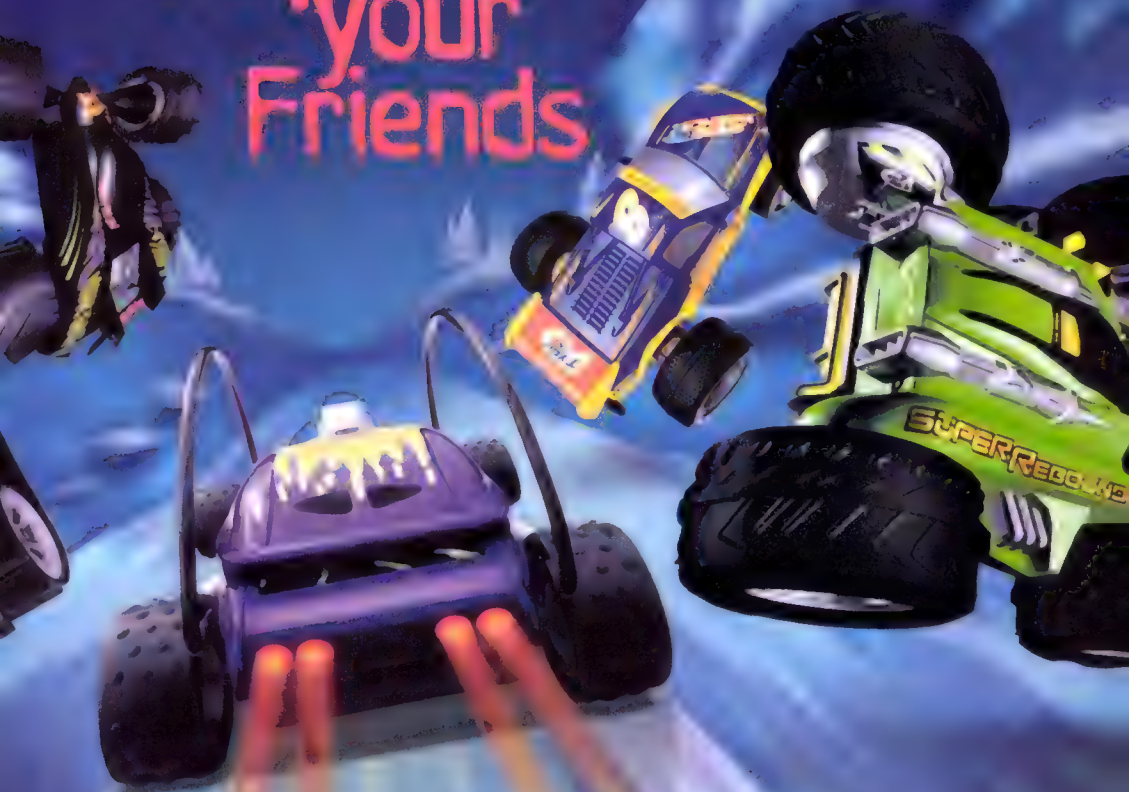
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Boston



LETTER OF THE MONTH

Think you have what it takes to write the Letter of the Month? Send us your video game, expositions, or you could win the official OPM Box of Joy. We pack our Box of Joy with an assortment of goodies from all your favorite software companies. If you win, be sure to use the Box of Joy only for good and never for evil.

Fantasy vs. Reality

Shane Ramdhany

CONTACT OPM

snail mail
P.O. Box 3338

e-mail

fax



Trigality has since again in the heartland of America:
 Yesterday, armed with various
 American rifles and other weapons,
 two teenagers went on a killing
 spree in a small town just south

[illegible]

These findings have important implications for the design of training programs for the management of the elderly. First, the results suggest that the elderly are not a homogeneous group in terms of their cognitive and physical abilities. Therefore, training programs should be tailored to the specific needs of each individual. Second, the results suggest that the elderly are more likely to benefit from training programs that focus on cognitive and physical abilities than on social and emotional abilities. Therefore, training programs should focus on these areas. Third, the results suggest that the elderly are more likely to benefit from training programs that are delivered in a group setting than in an individual setting. Therefore, training programs should be delivered in a group setting.

sents several steps forward for the series, despite its medieval setting. Check out this month's review, then run out and buy this game. You won't be disappointed.

Focus on Games, Not Girls!

XdanX2@aol.com

There are two schools of thought when it comes to "girl games." Some feel that developers need to create specific titles that appeal only to females, often resulting in drack like Barbie Digital Makeover. But others (and we're more firmly in this camp) believe that publishers need to do a better job of reaching out to new audiences with the games they're already making. Through advertising and marketing, publishers need to get the word out that gaming is for everyone—that just like the Slinky, gaming is "fun for a girl or a boy." We're pretty sure that many women would enjoy some of our favorite games if they just gave them a chance.

Strange But True...

We're not kidding, folks—this is an actual letter. Thank goodness Tiff didn't include a picture!

Stick the landing
— they'll call you a champion.

Don't
and they'll call you
an ambulance.

freestyle
MOTOCROSS:
McGrath
P vs.
Pastrana



Jeremy McGrath
11-time Supercross Champion



Travis Pastrana
Undefeated Freestyle Champion

If you want to play it safe, take up tennis. But if you want sick freestyle moto-x action get FreestyleMotocross: McGrath vs. Pastrana from Acclaim Max Sports. With two of today's hottest Supercross and Freestyle Motocross riders taking on nine levels, over 30 insane tricks and balls to the wall racing action, your adrenaline will be pinned in fifth gear. Plus, there's more than one way to walk away the winner. That is, if you can still walk.





INPUT

Underoos Are Fun to Wear

It's a little-known fact, but the Underoos are actually a very popular brand of underwear. In fact, they're so popular that they've been featured in a number of commercials and TV shows. The Underoos are a brand of underwear that was created by the company Underoos, Inc. in 1990. The company was founded by the two brothers, the Underoos brothers, who were inspired by the Underoos brand of underwear that they had seen in a store. The Underoos brothers decided to create their own brand of underwear, and they named it Underoos. The Underoos brand of underwear is now one of the most popular brands of underwear in the world.

Japheht Jones

Wrong Droid

It's a little-known fact, but the Wrong Droid is actually a very popular brand of droid. In fact, they're so popular that they've been featured in a number of commercials and TV shows. The Wrong Droid is a brand of droid that was created by the company Wrong Droid, Inc. in 1990. The company was founded by the two brothers, the Wrong Droid brothers, who were inspired by the Wrong Droid brand of droid that they had seen in a store. The Wrong Droid brothers decided to create their own brand of droid, and they named it Wrong Droid. The Wrong Droid brand of droid is now one of the most popular brands of droid in the world.

"Crimsyn Fury"

We've also learned that the "Holo-Monsters" game has a name: Dejarik Challenge.

Doubtful on Potter

It's a little-known fact, but the Doubtful on Potter is actually a very popular brand of book. In fact, they're so popular that they've been featured in a number of commercials and TV shows. The Doubtful on Potter is a brand of book that was created by the company Doubtful on Potter, Inc. in 1990. The company was founded by the two brothers, the Doubtful on Potter brothers, who were inspired by the Doubtful on Potter brand of book that they had seen in a store. The Doubtful on Potter brothers decided to create their own brand of book, and they named it Doubtful on Potter. The Doubtful on Potter brand of book is now one of the most popular brands of book in the world.

So you have every Harry Potter book? But you still think it's a dumb idea? Right.

Subliminal Suggestions

It's a little-known fact, but the Subliminal Suggestions are actually a very popular brand of suggestion. In fact, they're so popular that they've been featured in a number of commercials and TV shows. The Subliminal Suggestions are a brand of suggestion that was created by the company Subliminal Suggestions, Inc. in 1990. The company was founded by the two brothers, the Subliminal Suggestions brothers, who were inspired by the Subliminal Suggestions brand of suggestion that they had seen in a store. The Subliminal Suggestions brothers decided to create their own brand of suggestion, and they named it Subliminal Suggestions. The Subliminal Suggestions brand of suggestion is now one of the most popular brands of suggestion in the world.



QUESTION OF THE MOMENT

This month you tell us which gaming classics you'd most like to see remade for the PS2. Next month, let us know exactly what you were doing the moment the PS2 went on sale in the U.S. E-mail us at OPM@ziffdavis.com. Mark your notes **launch day**.

Star Ranger and Tony Shuhei Zakkenayo

Mr. X and Mr. Y. I don't need a PS2 makeover.

Sarah Carlton
Dawn Age 18

Burke and Peter Dinklage has been called for a sequel for the first time.

Shane Gardner
Washington, TX

Zerk, but keep it as a text adventure.
Frank Hill
ziffdavis@ziffdavis.com

Mike and the Mandy should get the best of Scope treatment.
Juan Porter

There's a game called Castlevania R-Type and the game is called D.J. Kruzer

QUICK HITS

It's a little-known fact, but the Quick Hits are actually a very popular brand of hit. In fact, they're so popular that they've been featured in a number of commercials and TV shows. The Quick Hits are a brand of hit that was created by the company Quick Hits, Inc. in 1990. The company was founded by the two brothers, the Quick Hits brothers, who were inspired by the Quick Hits brand of hit that they had seen in a store. The Quick Hits brothers decided to create their own brand of hit, and they named it Quick Hits. The Quick Hits brand of hit is now one of the most popular brands of hit in the world.

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WOW by SRS



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CAPTION CONTEST

OPM@ziffdavis.com



WINNER!

tenix78@hotmail.com



NEXT MONTH

Give it to the folks at Namco to not only be on the forefront of gaming but on the cutting edge of fashion

I decided to read a few...
While the main reason I am writing...
Nick Langan
j.k.n.k@broad.com

Good eyes, Nick. Tecmo did indeed include a lot of hidden info in its ad. In fact, we recently got an e-mail from Tecmo's public relations team telling us to "look deep within the ad for new information on the game, some lighthearted political propaganda, and even another tribute to that 'other fighting game.'"

Futurama Fan

I read in your October issue that...
Mark Pudowski
Baltimore, MD

Info on this game is real scarce, but we're positively atwitter with anticipation. If you're a Futurama fan, though, check out these superduper cool new toys from Rocket USA, in stores now. For more info, head over to www.rocketusa.com.



THE SOAP BOX

I am mad. Lunar 2 has been delayed too many times, and I have been quite good about it—that is, until now. I personally have been waiting for Lunar 2 to be released for months. I was cool with the first couple of delays, but now I'm getting mad. Please tell Vic Ireland to get off his ass and finish what he started. I'm just about to the point where I'm gonna take that damn puppet and shove it in his ass. PS2 games are cool, I love the Gundam series, but Vic needs to work in the order in which received. If you could relay this to him, it would be greatly appreciated.

Rick Guevara
rsa_6100@webop.com

Got something you want to rant about? Get on our soap box and vent. E-mail us at OPM@ziffdavis.com and mark the subject line SOAPBOX.



Fashion Forward

know those hall...
Rick Guevara

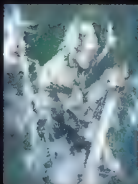
Here's a pic of Jun from Tekken 2, which came out way back in August 1996, long before the whole Capri craze got hot. While Namco may have kick-started this fashion trend, we're glad some of the other styles, like Paul's goofy haircut, never caught on. [Yes, we realize this is the second letter from Rick in the same issue—see Soapbox—but he does seem to have a lot of good stuff to say.]

The Reader Art Challenge

Each month we pick one exceptional piece as our Reader Art of the Month. The winner will have his/her piece published and will receive a new game or game-related item in the mail—so include your mailing address with all submissions. Congrats to this month's winner, Ian Kim—although our runners up gave us some equally impressive art works!



Ian Kim
genesis@malson-otaku.net



Sherman McClain
Rosenberg, TX



John Garrett
johnliu@aol.com

QUICK HITS

HAPPINESS

Every day PlayStation gives happiness [sic] to the family. It's not just a game system; PlayStation is a friend, a brother and it might be a teacher. Yes, of course I'm going to get a new best friend on Oct. 26, 2000, its name is PlayStation 2. We hope PS2 brings more happiness to the family. Thank you PlayStation for all the happiness you brought us. Who says you can't buy happiness?

Emmanuel Guzman
CA
Your letter gives us much happiness. You are our friend, our brother and maybe even our teacher.

STAR STRUCK

Were those pics of Star Wars Starfighter all in-game? If they were, I...oh...excuse me, I have to wipe the drool out of my keyboard!

Dennis Goring

Yep, all in-game shots. Sweet!

Official Contest and Sweepstakes Rules

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DREAMWORKS

Twentieth Century Fox

RATHE!

E Comic
Mischi



Dreamcast



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IGN.com

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"Wild Wild Racing is one of the few games that showcases what the PS2 can do."

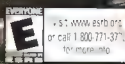
Silicon Magazine



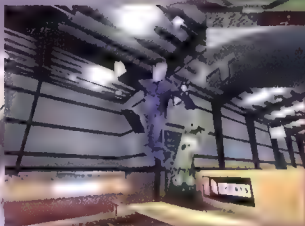
Available at launch

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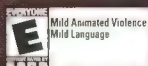
www.interplay.com

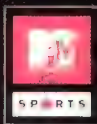


PlayStation 2



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Rick Howard
Brian Howard
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Sega Dreamcast

**You Can't Defy Gravity. But You Can,
However, Taunt It A Little.**

THQ
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MOMMY!
CAN I GET "BLOOD
DRINKING HELL
GUYS"?

WHAT
DOES THIS BIG "M"
MEAN, HERE IN THE
CORNER?

UMM... MONKEYS!

WELL,
THERE'S CERTAINLY
NOTHING WRONG WITH
MONKEYS!

HEY,
WAIT A SECOND!
YOU DON'T KILL THESE
MONKEYS, DO YOU?



Rated 'M' for Minor

New government study reveals marketing of violence to children

The aftermath of the Columbine shooting, which ended in a deadly 1999 school massacre, has led to a new government study on the marketing of violent video games to children. One day before the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) released its report on the industry's marketing of violent video games, the industry has to pay for that. The report, which is the first of its kind, says that the industry has to pay for that. The report, which is the first of its kind, says that the industry has to pay for that.

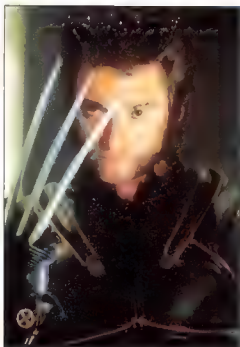
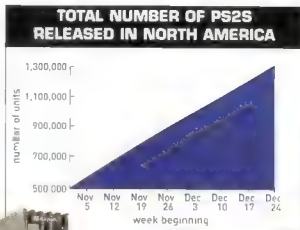
In the case of video games, the FTC—without naming any specific companies—said that the industry has to pay for that. The report, which is the first of its kind, says that the industry has to pay for that. The report, which is the first of its kind, says that the industry has to pay for that.

Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., displays an ECW video game and associated action figure during a Senate Commerce Committee hearing on Capitol Hill.



Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., displays an ECW video game and associated action figure during a Senate Commerce Committee hearing on Capitol Hill.

Cutting Your PS2 Hopes in Half



Weapon X marches onto PS2

OVERHEARD: KAZ HIRAI

"Whatever you did last night... I guarantee that you had a better day than I did."

—Kaz Hirai, President SCEA at a press conference the day after the company announced it was effectively halving the number of PS2's to be available at launch.

M.L. ELRICK CHEATING THE SELF-IMPOSED SYSTEM

The most obscene and dastardly game devised by the video game industry appears to be its intentional deception of the American people. That may sound melodramatic, but how else can I describe the apparent scheme to undermine the industry's own rating system? According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the video game industry strategically targeted children under 17. The motive? One can only assume an endgame of maximizing profits while pacifying lawmakers eager to pull gory games off the shelf.



Now I'm not a big believer that violent games beget violent game players, but I do believe you're only as good as your word. And when you forsake credibility for the quick buck, you cost yourself in the long run. For the industry, that may mean public opinion will turn against it strongly enough that politicians genuinely convinced that games are detrimental and candidates looking to score points with voters will clamp down. So far there has been no suggestion that lawmakers will begin editing content—which some say could raise serious constitutional issues, though I'm not sure how mayhem and slaughter equate to freedom of speech.

In case industry leaders didn't get the FTC's point, let me break it down for them: Clean up your act. If you're going to rate a game for 17-year-olds and older, don't entice younger kids. If violence is all you've got to sell to squirts, remove the M rating. It is, after all, self-imposed. Then the real slugfest with retailers would begin. Now that might be worth watching.

If there was good news for the industry, it was the FTC's contention that violent video games are not responsible for violent acts. On that account, too, it looks like the FTC did its homework. For the past few months, I've followed a case of an 18-year-old who allegedly used a roofer's hammer to attack his grandparents. A few days after the boy was arrested, his father pinned the blame on Resident Evil. "I think he got to the point where the video games he played may have become his reality," Pops said. A convenient explanation, but even the kid's lawyers wouldn't touch that defense. They blamed mental illness. After all, Pops later told me his son had been grappling with mental illness and had been hospitalized several times. Unsurprisingly, 36 hours after the attack, Pops made no mention of Resident Evil. The night of the attack, the lad was off his medication, complaining that his stepmom was trying to sap energy from a hole in the back of his head. Now there are evil stepmothers and real evil stepmothers, but even Hansel and Gretel didn't deal with that.

The point is that so many factors beyond violent games visit tragedy upon families. There's mental illness; violence in homes, neighborhoods and schools; economic hopelessness; drug abuse; and, sometimes, circumstances that escalate from idle or menacing threats to unexpected bloodshed. Kids today are exposed to violent television and video games that those of us raised in the *Starsky & Hutch* and *Pac-Man* era find shocking at times.

I'll take some comfort knowing that it takes more than a video game to make a monster. Take Charlie Manson. His parents couldn't blame an addiction to Pong as the reason he turned out to be a complete bastard.

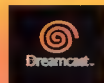
M.L. Elrick

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away.

TOTAL



Animated Violence



CARNAGE!

The background of the cover features a dynamic battle scene. In the foreground, a large, silver, mechanical droid with multiple gun barrels is firing. To its left, a smaller, more complex droid is also engaged in combat. In the background, a large, grey, monstrous creature with a wide, toothy mouth is running towards the viewer. The entire scene is set against a fiery, orange and red sky, suggesting a planet under attack or a battlefield in flames.

STAR WARS DEMOLITION

Intense Star Wars Vehicular Combat
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TOMB RAIDER CHRONICLES



LARA CROFT
The Legend
Lives On



Dreamcast

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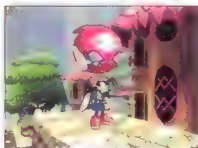
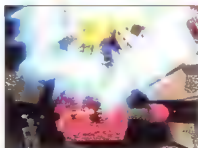
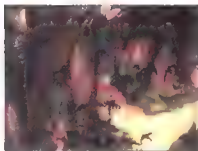


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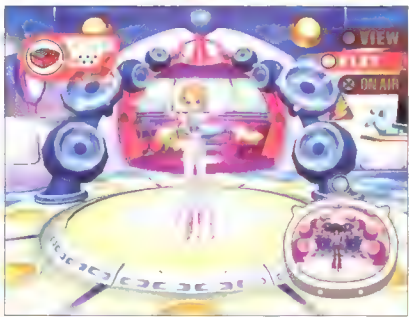
NAMCO

Namco has a long history of creating some of the most iconic arcade games of all time. From the classic Pac-Man to the more recent Tekken series, Namco has consistently delivered high-quality gaming experiences. In the PlayStation 2 era, Namco continued its legacy with titles like the Tekken series, which brought its fighting game expertise to the home console market. The company's focus on creating engaging and challenging gameplay has made it a beloved name among gamers.



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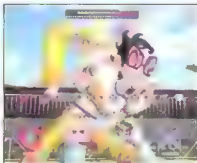
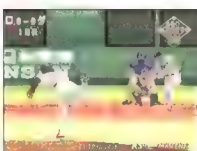
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ENIX

Enix has a long history of creating some of the most iconic arcade games of all time. From the classic Final Fantasy series to the more recent Final Fantasy series, Enix has consistently delivered high-quality gaming experiences. In the PlayStation 2 era, Enix continued its legacy with titles like the Final Fantasy series, which brought its role-playing game expertise to the home console market. The company's focus on creating engaging and challenging gameplay has made it a beloved name among gamers.



KOEI

Koei has a long history of creating some of the most iconic arcade games of all time. From the classic Samurai Warriors series to the more recent Samurai Warriors series, Koei has consistently delivered high-quality gaming experiences. In the PlayStation 2 era, Koei continued its legacy with titles like the Samurai Warriors series, which brought its action-adventure game expertise to the home console market. The company's focus on creating engaging and challenging gameplay has made it a beloved name among gamers.



GENKI

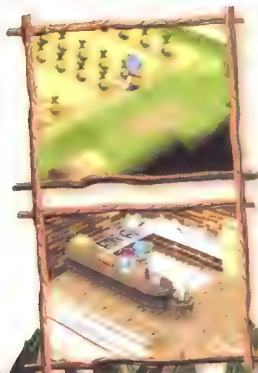
Genki has a long history of creating some of the most iconic arcade games of all time. From the classic Tekken series to the more recent Tekken series, Genki has consistently delivered high-quality gaming experiences. In the PlayStation 2 era, Genki continued its legacy with titles like the Tekken series, which brought its fighting game expertise to the home console market. The company's focus on creating engaging and challenging gameplay has made it a beloved name among gamers.



It's A Different Kind of RPG

HARVEST MOON

Back To Nature



As a child you visited your Grandfather's ranch when vacation plans fell through. Return to the farm that holds fond childhood memories and rejuvenate it's long neglected fields. Tend to your livestock and interact with over 50 characters as you struggle to make a life for yourself home on the range.

- Enjoy hours of Non-Linear game play.
- Town festivals and events like The Tomato Festival, Chicken Sumo and Horse Races.
- Prepare a wide variety of dishes in your own kitchen using your harvested items and the recipes you learn from the townsfolk.

Serious Fun™



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Victor
Interactive Softwares



WWW.NATSUME.COM

SAM JEMIELITY MATING GAMES?

I've dated this smart, sexy woman two or three times. Everything's cool. Then she drops the bomb. "People who play video games are sooo pathetic." Since honesty is the most important element in a relationship, and since my PlayStation sat two feet away when she said this, I decided to come clean. "I am a pathetic video game player. But only sports games. Only in season. Usually."



Oh, we cried, we laughed...we moved beyond it. Then I got to thinking. Could playing video games put romance on the rocks? I asked a friend, a designer for a big advertising firm, what he would think if a girl-friend spent hours playing video games. "It's fun to play against the person you're dating. Plus you can make it interesting by playing 'strip' games—every round you lose, you take off something." PlayStation as foreplay...nice. But when I broadened my research, the outlook for romance got bleaker. A screenwriter friend insists a PlayStation would result in Mortal Kombat with his wife: "My currently wonderful marriage would be on the rocks. My wife absolutely cannot fathom or stand regular video game playing." A product buyer buddy confessed that many women he'd dated either "despised video games from not being good at them or not understanding them, or have simply dismissed them." A D.C. editor had no doubt what his girlfriend would say if he played video games all the time. "She'd be annoyed," he said. "...Shrew."

In case my friends just projected their own insecurities on their mates, I asked a good female friend what she thinks of guys, like me, who play video games. Her verdict: "Adolescent. Not worth my time." No need to sugarcoat it. Really.

You'd think guys would be attracted to game girls, but that isn't always the case. Asked what he would think about a gaming girlfriend, a rock-and-roll photographer friend joked, "I would think I really need to up my dating age limit to at least 12!"

But gaming, even gaming addiction, can also be the glue in a romance. "The love of my life used to play Sega with me until the wee hours of the morning," says a writer friend. "Playing video games was one of the things that cemented our relationship. And to put any 'nerd' inferences to rest, she was a 36D bartender who looked like Gina Gershon, was funny as hell and extremely intelligent."

Man, that sounds awesome. We should all be so lucky as to have a fellow gamer for a mate. But if you're not, a friend offered a genius recipe to torpedo that obviously dead-end relationship. Just follow this script:

"Sorry honey. Before I please you, I'd like to finish the next level of Final Fantasy XXIII."

"That's it! It's either Lara Croft or me—make your choice!"

"Lara from the Tomb Raider 1? Or Lara from Tomb Raider 4?"

Sound of suitcase being packed and door slamming.

Sam Jemielity is an associate

The sights of TGS

The Tokyo Game Show always features an odd mix of people and sites to see. Most of the booths feature attractive women to encourage people to visit them, but in between the show halls amass a whole slew of people dressed as their favorite game characters. Don't you wish you could join in?



WWW.PENNY-ARCADE.COM



Where Fingerprints
would be if controller
wasn't gripped so hard.

Finger was cut
after getting in
Angry Face.

9 stitches.
Exactly 12 less
than I
you're Achey.

Minor blisters
earned during
8-hour marathon.

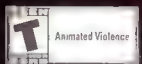
Painful pizza stain
From all-night
tournament in Akron.

Good yet using
toe-to-toe
against Psycho.

THE GAME IS IN 2-D. THE PAIN ISN'T. IT'S THE EPIC STORY OF GOOD VS. EVIL IN CLASSIC 2-D. YOU ARE HEERO YUY, IN YOUR FIRST VIDEO GAME EVER. YOUR JOB: USE YOUR POWERFUL WING GUNDAM TO PROTECT HUMANITY FROM THE SINISTER GIANT MOBILE SUITS. DO YOU HAVE THE BRAIN POWER AND STAMINA NEEDED TO DEFEAT THE EVIL MACHINES? OR DO WE CALL YOU MR. SOFT HANDS? GUNDAM BATTLE ASSAULT. OLD SCHOOL GAME-PLAY. NEW SCHOOL PAIN.



**GUNDAM
BATTLE
ASSAULT**



A DARK FUTURE...
AN UNCERTAIN PAST...

NO ONE LEFT TO TRUST.

Oni

AN INTENSE ACTION THRILLER COMES TO
LIFE WITH EXCITING ANIME STYLE
CHARACTERS AND STORYLINE.

REVOLUTIONARY GAMEPLAY BLEND OF
HAND TO HAND AND WEAPONS COMBAT.



EASY TO LEARN FIGHTING SYSTEM WITH
COOL, LIFELIKE AND REALISTIC MOVES.

THE ARSENAL OF WEAPONS INCLUDES
PISTOLS, ROCKET LAUNCHERS, ENERGY
AND PROJECTILE WEAPONS.



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PlayStation®2



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Animated Violence



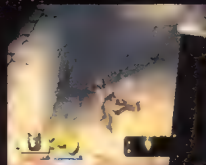
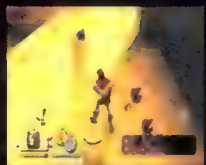
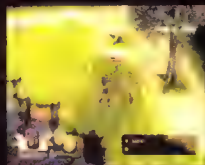
RUNGIE



DARK STONE



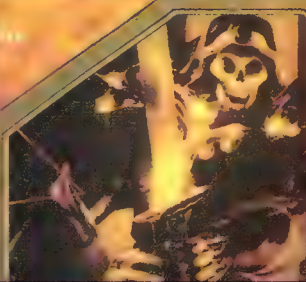
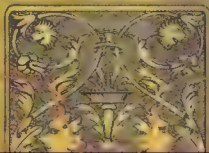
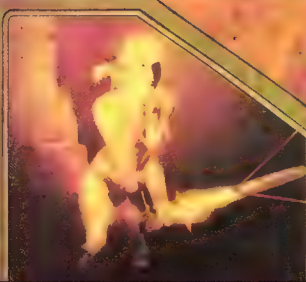
Look deep inside yourself –
Is there a dragon slayer within?



- 8 PLAYABLE CHARACTERS AND 32 ENVIRONMENTS
- MORE THAN 200 ENEMIES AND INTERACTIVE CHARACTERS - OVER 100 ENEMIES

- MORE THAN 30 TYPES OF WEAPONS AND 22 DIFFERENT SPELLS
- COMPLETE CAMERA CONTROL - ZOOM IN, ZOOM OUT AND ROTATE 360 DEGREES.

\$9.99



Suggested Retail Price*



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Animated Blood and Gore
Animated Violence





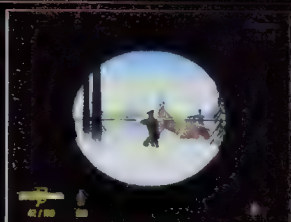
**THE ENEMY IS EXPECTING YOU TOMORROW...
...YOU'RE ALREADY THERE!**



Two player split-screen battle mode.
Lead your team with **guns blazing** or
silently under the **cover of darkness**
across landscapes of thick jungle, barren
desert, arctic tundra and dense forest.



An arsenal to choose from including
night-vision goggles, sniper rifles,
machine guns, tripwire mines, grenades,
shotguns, and more.



Choose **stealth** or **all-out frontal assault**
as you lead your team of Rangers into combat
against **ultra-powerful terrorist units.**
Fight against time and huge **enemy forces**
in global **terrorist hotspots.**

STEALTH PATROL



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Animated Blood
Animated Violence





NBA

The Shaq attack is back in 3-on-3 NBA Hoopz: Midway's latest over-the-top, board-crashing, high-flying parquet masterpiece for PlayStation 2.



Daintily, playfully, Shaquille O'Neal, the NBA's most dominant parquet dunkster, uses index finger and thumb to pick the snug, infuriating motion-capture spanx from the crease of his bottom. It's all a show for his onlooking daughter who, as he winks over his shoulder, feigns embarrassment before a quick shriek of laughter. Twenty seconds later, with small silver moon sensors spread over him like wayward chicken pox, the man better known as Shaq or the Diesel or the Dad, is hammering an easily palmed basketball through a hoop with enough force to separate backboard from rim. He hangs there, a roomful of onlookers holding a collective breath waiting for the whole structure to disintegrate beneath his impossible strength. Finally, he lets go, the released tension of the stuttering rim giving off a

sound more indicative of Warner Bros. than pro basketball.

But Shaq has long been this oxymoron of power and charm. Since being taken first overall in the 1992 NBA draft out of LSU—an obvious franchise player from the outset, considering his hulking 7'1", 315 lb. size—he's done things Neon Deion hasn't had the capacity to dream up. Shaq has been featured in major motion pictures (yes, *Kazaam* qualifies, as does *Blue Chips*), he's spun several rap albums, he's won two Olympic gold medals, and an MVP award, and he's led the prideful L.A. Lakers to a championship renaissance (their first title since 1988). Now he's putting his surreal-sized stamp on the cover of Midway's NBA Hoopz, the 3-on-3 follow-up to the already-classic arcade NBA Showtime.



SHAQ DADDY: THE OPM SITDOWN

In his trademark mumble, Shaq answered our queries with a charisma that bordered on arrogance but without a hint of vanity. Shaq was simply Shaq—not to mention his hand was about three times bigger than any of ours.

OPM: How did you get involved with Midway?

Shaq: Midway called me up and said they were doing a 3-on-3 game and wanted to know if I'd like to be involved and I said, "Why not?" I had the coin-op NBA Showtime game, too. They had me in today so I could put on the sensors and do all my moves. No one's going to have the moves I have.

OPM: What does it mean to be on the cover of a game?

Shaq: I was in Showtime, but to have my own cover feels pretty good. Hopefully it will do well.

OPM: Does it make you feel superior to Kevin Garnett (EA's NBA Live cover-batter) and Jason Kidd (1989's cover man)?

Shaq: I'm already superior to those guys.



OPM: When you were at LSU did you ever dream of your current situation?

Shaq: No, not really. When I was there I remember playing Double Dribble. The further we go, the graphics just keep getting so much better.

OPM: Obviously, the NBA Championship means the most. But of these three, which ranks highest: being on the NBA Hoopz cover, starring in Kazaam, or having your own rap album? Be specific here.

Shaq: It's pretty much all the same. It's never been done before by an athlete. I'm historic, once again.

OPM: What about winning the MVP award vs. the Gold Medal in Nagano?

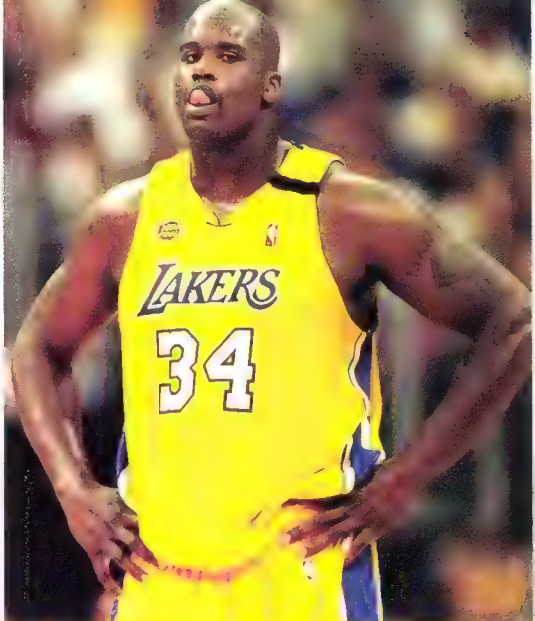
Shaq: MVP award. Of course, the Gold Medal is good, but I've got two of those. So we can take one away and replace it with the MVP award.

OPM: Where do you think you fit in with the current NBA stars?

Shaq: I think I'm in the top one, two or three. It really doesn't matter. I really don't look for the "best player" title. It would probably be a guard because guards get to show all their stuff. But I probably won, and I've always own, the "most dominant" title. That's my title. So guys want to be the best player and the best shooter, that's fine. But "most dominant" belongs to me.

OPM: Where do you fit in all-time? Do you think about that?

Shaq: No, I never think about it. This world we live in—people listen to big-time announcers. So when big-time announcers say something positive about me, it'll stick. When I was in college Dick Vitale said I was going to go No. 1 and I did. So that stuck.



Who were your heroes when you were growing up?

My father. And my high school coach, Coach.

I always wanted to be like Dr. J.

But he was a guard. I was better than Dr. J.

OPM: What do you want to be remembered for?

Shaq: I want to be remembered as the most dominant player, er, a guy who did it all. Business-wise I want to be remembered as the guy who made a lot of money. And I want to be remembered as the guy who made a lot of money.

OPM: When you first came to L.A., wasn't it so you'd be closer to the movie scene?

Shaq: I was a basketball player. I was a basketball player. I was a basketball player.

OPM: Are you mad you didn't get cast for Star Wars?

Shaq: Am I mad? No, not really. But I'm mad I didn't get cast for Star Wars.

OPM: Do you still have that long, black leather Superman cape?

Shaq: I keep all my Superman-istic things.

OPM: What does Kobe mean to you?

Shaq: Kobe is a great player. He's a great player. He's a great player. He's a great player.

OPM: Have you ever thought of being a two-sport athlete?

Shaq: I think I could play some football.

OPM: Are the Lakers going to win the championship this year?

Shaq: Hopefully.

OPM: Who's your biggest competition?

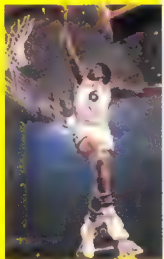
Shaq: I think it's the other teams. I think it's the other teams. I think it's the other teams.

OPM: Do you think teams will continue with the Hack-a-Shaq strategy?

Shaq: I think it's a good strategy. I think it's a good strategy. I think it's a good strategy.

OPM: What's your favorite ESPN nickname? The Dad? Shaq-Dad? Or The Diesel?

Shaq: The Diesel.



Incredible Crisis. Severe Fun.

SHOWTIME PLUS ONE



When we heard Midway was moving forward on a plan to make the first 3-on-3 NBA Jam-style game, we couldn't wait to find out more about it. After all, the buttons from our office's arcade version of NBA Showtime (NBA Jam's masterfully visual sequel), are so dented and dinged from being overworked, we're surprised they don't have fingerprints pressed into them.

As far as the screens you see here, they're early. Expect this one to look as sharp as any PS2 game once they near completion. After all, anyone who hit the arcades for Showtime knows how crisp and realistic that one looked, even when NBAers were soaring 20 feet off the ground.



We had a chance to find out more from Midway's own Tim Granich, who filled us in on Midway's newest additions to one of their top-flight franchises. Hoopz isn't PS2-exclusive (it'll hit the PS one, as well, and might even show up in the arcade). It will support a Multitap. And it'll land on store shelves this January. But that's all boring stuff. So what's new?

"The 3-on-3 format is key to making this game so much fun. It gives you the over-the-top action of previous Midway basketball titles, but also gives you the three unique playing styles of the three positions," says Granich. "NBA Hoopz will also feature Create-a-Player and Create-a-Team options where the user can create everything from the player's height and weight, right down to choosing the colors and logo for his uniform. Oh, and there are new play modes including the playground favorite, 21."

With all the new stuff, will Midway abandon its patented unlockables in the new game?

"NBA Hoopz will feature quite a few hidden players and courts," Granich told us. "NBA mascots will join some high-profile characters for users to unlock and play with or against."

Sounds good, but is it that much different than Showtime?

"Hoopz gets its roots from the likes of NBA Showtime and NBA Jam, but with the 3-on-3 format there's all-new AI that drives the offensive plays and defensive reads," says Granich.

"NBA Hoopz is a whole new basketball animal. It all boils down to gameplay.

We've added additional elements to give it depth but kept the same pace as the earlier games. It's still fast-paced, but big men will no longer bust out the three-pointers all the time."

Sure, the unlockables help, but does an arcade-style game like Hoopz really feature enough replayability to keep it fresh?

"We're always working very hard to figure out how to develop these games to add depth and replay value without stripping away the fun factor and making them too much like simulation games," says Granich. "It's really a progression toward more fun through more differentiation. This keeps things fresh so the gamer wants to play more and more to see what else he/she can see, hear and do."

So why is NBA Hoopz a must-have game for all those PS2 owners?

"Hoopz is the only dedicated 3-on-3 arcade-style NBA basketball game featuring NBA

MVP Shaquille O'Neal

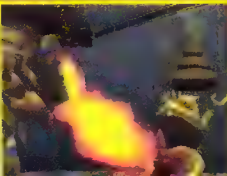
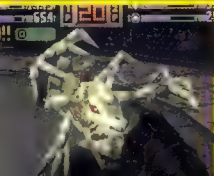
and all of your favorite NBA players catching fire (literally) while defying gravity, reality and still performing moves you've only dreamed of!"

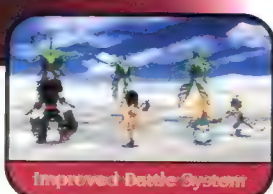




CAUTION: MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR PEOPLE WHO SUCK AT VIDEO GAMES.

If you're going to try playing Digimon World, you'd better make sure you're wearing the pants and underpants. See, some of these Digimon are so vicious and twisted they could scare you right from television. That's okay with them, there are more things to blow up in video games anyway. Like you. So if you think you've got enough game for Digimon World, bring it. But don't say we didn't warn you.





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Animated Violence
Mild Language

FINAL FANTASY IX

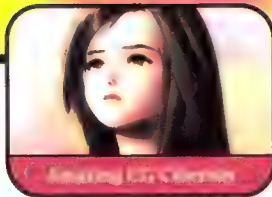
PREPARE YOURSELF

for a world of mystery and magic

for a journey of danger and discovery

for characters you'll never forget

for the most amazing adventure ever



SQUARESOFT

PICK A WORLD
WE'LL TAKE YOU THERE



SPIN

YOU PICK
WHO WINS!

PS2 SURVIVOR

A late surge of votes for everyone's favorite Mudokon couldn't save Abe from being pushed off the PS2 Island in the narrowest vote yet. Now the four that remain are a lady, a Snake, an arachnid and a bandicoot. So get off your can, pause your Thanksgiving dinner, and race over to your PC and vote, vote, vote! We read *all* the e-mails, so keep on sending them. And, if you're interested in capturing the PS2 Survivor Grand Surprise, cast two votes against the Final Four and send stories to survivor@ziffdavis.com to tell us why they'll survive on the PS2!

The Rock has to defend his title at all the Pay-Per-Views. How's he supposed to do that when he's on this island? Hey, I'm doing this one for you, Rock. You'll thank me later along with the millions, and I mean MILLIONS, of your fans.

lakalt@hockeymail.com

The Rock proposes a wrestling match as an immunity challenge, but Spider-Man uses his spider strength to powerbomb the Rock through the earth's crust, so The Rock's out of the running. Lara has a similar idea, only it's a mud wrestling match with Claire. The male members declare both of them the winner before excusing themselves to go into the woods for some "personal time."

John Ogden

greekdm@hotmail.com

I know Lara will probably end up winning this [a girl can dream, can't she?]. Lara has the

guns, she has the survival skills, and she has the *talent* that doubles as flotation devices in an emergency. Call it female jealousy if you must, but Claire is everything Lara is without the two moons.

Amanda "Greenbeans" Anderson
gbeans@tylenol.org

One animal cooks another when Crash finally tires of Spyro's bad flame breath. Worst part is, Crash cooks that stupid dragon over a fire the purple idiot created!

Ray Carvers

raymondcarver@yahoo.com

Conflict ensues as Spider-Man makes a pet out of Crash, only to find his bandicoot has become scorched after fighting with Spyro. Abe discovers the Blackened Bandicoot delicacy, and has to deal with Spider-Man's wrath. Abe is unanimously voted off the island.

jsosny@yahoo.com

'Can you smell what The Rock is cooking!?' The Rock smells in Snake's face.

'Shut up,' Snake responds,

lighting a cigarette. "I can't stand that fake wrestling crap."

"Fake wrestling? I'll show you!"

The wrestler slams the stealthy hero, following with the People's Elbow. Snake rises, unfazed.

"Staged moves? How 'bout I show you something really useful, like how to break someone's neck," says Snake.

"It's OK, man. No need to do anything rash. I'll just run over...here!" The Rock then dives into the nearby forest.

Spike00005@aol.com

The Rock and Snake are pining after Lara in embarrassing fashion. We know [Lara included] Snake will win her heart. Poor Rock.

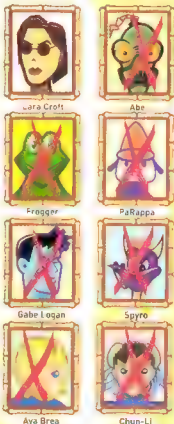
Boston McNeal
bostonmac@mindspring.com

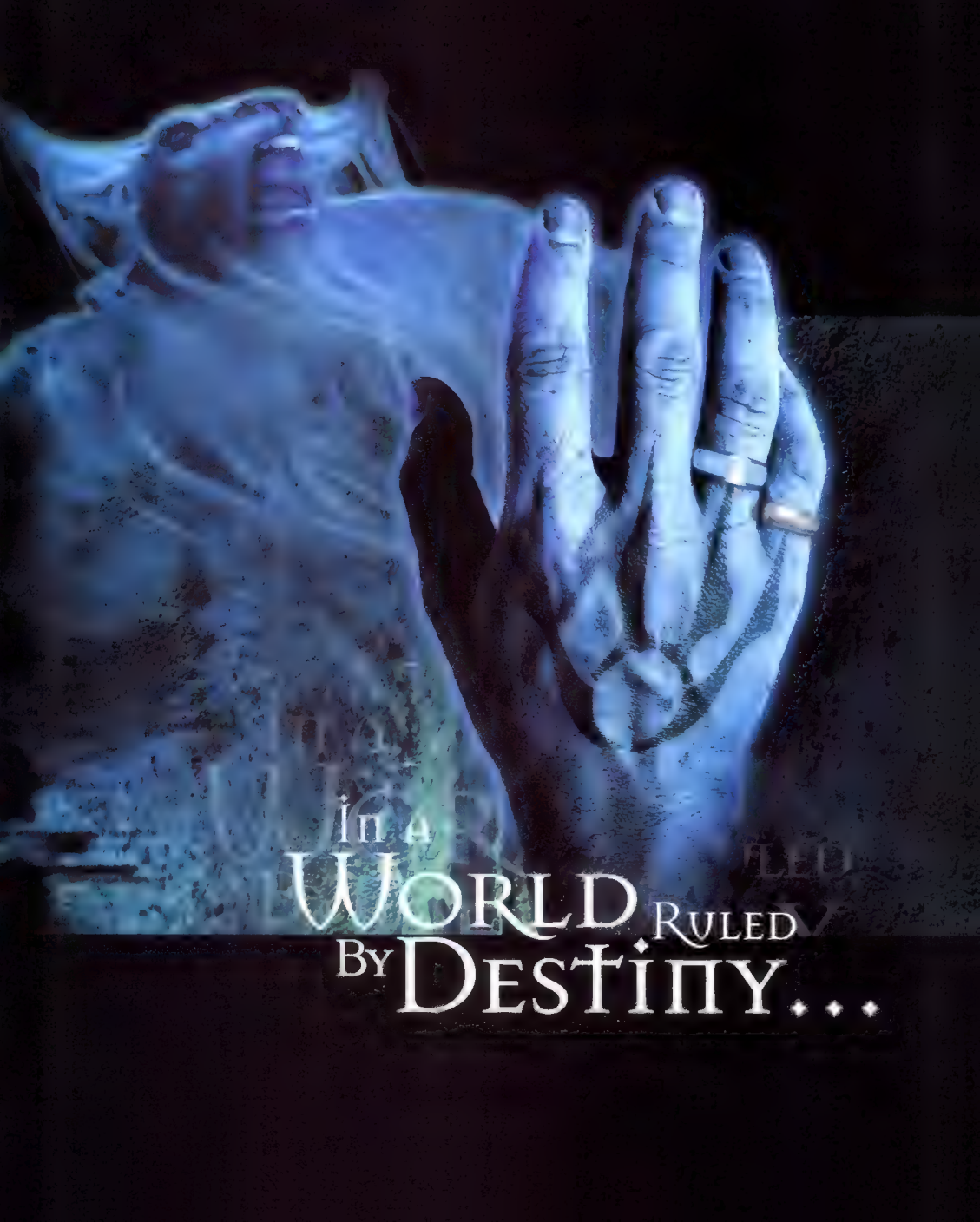
If Crash can survive toxic-waste sewers, the Antarctic with its freezing-cold temperatures, warping through time, and saving our planet, then he's the PS2 Survivor to lead us into the new world.

YOGARAJAH@aol.com

Lara the aristocrat always eats her rat with a side of Grey Poupon.

Gary Young
gyoung@gemstate.net

THE SHAKA
DULA TRIBETHE
DADONGLE
TRIBE



in a
WORLD RULED
By DESTINY...





PlayStation.2

with more games than ever before



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BORN WITH THE MARK OF A SUMMONER, JOSEPH OF CIRAH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DESTROYING HIS VILLAGE AS A CHILD. ALTHOUGH HATED BY MANY, HE IS THE ONLY HOPE FOR SALVATION. HIS ABILITY TO CALL FORTH DEMONS, DRAGONS, AND ELEMENTALS, AND CONTROL THEIR EVERY MOVE, GIVES HIM THE POWER TO TOPPLE EMPIRES, CHALLENGE GODS, AND STOP THE EVIL EMPEROR MUROD FROM RULING THE HEAVENS AND EARTH. CROSSING A MASSIVE WORLD, FROM SEWERS TO CITIES TO FORESTS AND BEYOND, JOSEPH SEEKS THE ANCIENT RINGS THAT ARE THE SOURCE OF HIS POWER. HE WILL ENCOUNTER HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE, BOTH FRIEND AND FOE, INCLUDING THE THREE THAT WILL AID IN HIS QUEST. TOGETHER, THEY WILL FACE DANGER AND UNCOVER THE SECRETS KNOWN ONLY TO THE SUMMONER.

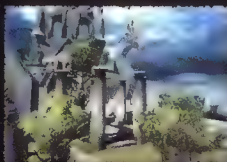
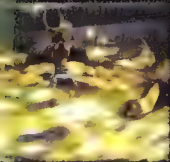
PREPARE FOR AN ORIGINAL, EPIC FANTASY RPG.



SAVIORS CAN BE DESTROYERS

Summoner

www.summoner.com



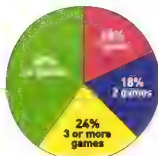
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...AND TORN
BY CONFLICT

**OPM
Reader Poll**
How many games
do you rent in a
typical month?



CHRIS GORE WHAT'S UP WITH RPGs?

I don't get it and I'm not embarrassed to admit it. I don't understand the appeal of role-playing games. Why is a game filled with swords, sorcery and elves so much fun to play?

Personally, I love all kinds of games. Fighting games rule. Sports games are awesome. I'm a huge fan of shooters and I find good puzzle games can be as addicting as Jolt cola. Action/adventure games like Tomb Raider, Spyro or Dino Crisis kick ass. And nothing beats the thrill of speed from a great racer. But role-playing games, I just don't get. I am, however, one of the many gamers who got caught in the hype and bought Final Fantasy VIII, even though I had never really played an RPG. The cinematics looked fantastic and I liked the sci-fi storyline. I figured this was an RPG I could actually get into since it seemed to be devoid of the elves that always seem to populate these types of games. Plus, I saw ad after ad in magazines and on television, so like a lemming, I picked it up. You walk around and find stuff, talk to people a lot, and then when you fight you have to politely take turns (as if that would happen in real life). I read more than a ton of text and still couldn't figure it out.

So, after 40 hours of getting through less than 10 percent of the game, I quit. And I'm not a quitter. I think I would have rather read the novel; it would have been a lot more fun. Now, I want to know, am I the only one out there who feels this way? I notice the games in the Final Fantasy series are some of the biggest sellers of all time. I'm aware that there are millions who love these games, but I'm just not one of them. Don't just tell me I'm nuts and I don't understand. Please explain to me why RPGs are so addictive that some gamers will go without sleeping, eating or bathing for days while playing these elf games. [OK, most of you don't go without eating.]

Now, you could brush off RPG gamers by calling them nerds or geeks, but hey, I'm a geek—aren't these games for me too?

Chris Gore is the editor of Film Threat, www.filmthreat.com and the host of The New Movie Show, which airs on Thursdays at 10:30 p.m. on the FX Network www.fxnetworks.com



PlayStation Aptitude Test

Think you know your PlayStation games? Take the PlayStation Aptitude Test (PSAT) each month and see how good you really are.

- What was the first PS2 game off the assembly line?
a) Ridge Racer V
b) Smuggler's Run
c) Midnight Club
d) Wild Wild Racing
- What PS2 game carries the coveted serial number of 001?
a) Tekken Tag Tournament
b) Dead or Alive 2: Hardcore
c) Street Fighter EX3
d) Ridge Racer V
- In which of the following countries will you NOT find the bandicoot?
a) Spain
b) Tasmanian
c) Sri Lanka
d) India
- Spyro is to The Police as Crash Bandicoot is to...
a) Men at Work
b) Men Without Hats
c) Ono Bo Nogo
d) Devo
- Soul Reaver's Raziel is to The Smurfs as Crash Bandicoot's Neo Cortex is to...
a) Highlander
b) Earth 2
c) The Shawshank Redemption
d) All of the above
- Crash producer Mark Cerny was the designer of which arcade classic?
a) Jungle Hunt
b) Galaxian
c) Marble Madness
d) Joust
- The team that developed TimeSplitters is responsible for which classic N64 game?
a) Mario
b) Donkey Kong
c) GoldenEye 007
d) Metro d.
- Who "owns" Crash?
a) Fox
b) Universal
c) MGM
d) Dreamworks
- Z.O.E stands for what?
a) Zephyr Overdrive Extreme
b) Zone Of Energy
c) Zone Of Excitement
d) Zone Of Enders
- Take the date (day, not month) that the PS2 was released and multiply it by the number of Crash games there are (including Bash). Now subtract the number of megabytes a PS2 memory card can hold and add the number of pins in a PS joypad connector.
E-mail: PSAT question suggestion to OPM@ziffdavis.com. Mark your message PSAT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40
41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50
51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60
61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70
71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80
81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90
91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

DATA STREAM

Driver 2 Mania

Anxious to get your copy of Driver 2? Well, so are over 1 million other PS gamers. That's how many people have already pre-ordered the highly anticipated sequel. To date, the original Driver has sold more than 4 million units.



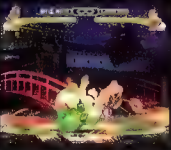
Dinos and Things

Kenami and Universal are teaming up to bring games based on the next Jurassic Park movie and the classic Kurt Russell flick The Thing to the PS2 next year. Let's hope these titles are better than their last collaboration: The Mummy for the PS one.



Another EX?

Word out of Japan says that Capcom will release a PlayStation port of the Japanese arcade game SNK vs. Capcom next year. The game will be called SNK vs. Capcom EX and will feature some new characters and scaled-down 2D backgrounds.



OVERHEARD: PS2 RPGs

"There IS a significant amount of RPG development going on. Since decent RPGs take a bare minimum of 18-24 months to complete, you can expect to see them start hitting the shelves in Japan around Q1 2001 and in the U.S. thereafter."

—Victor Ireland of Working Designs, who has his eye on several Japanese PS2 RPG projects.

VAMPIRE HUNTER

D

a true masterpiece of the
Cartoon Express



Who's Gonna Save You?
Your Momma Can't
Hear Your Cries!



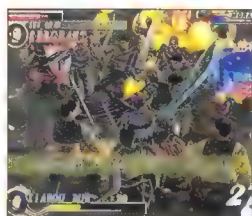
JALECO

www.jaleco.com



Animated Blood
Animated Violence

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Console Launches through the Years

Sure, the PS2 launch was smaller than originally promised, with "only" half a million systems sold on the first day. But it was still the most successful console launch in the United States and arguably the most-anticipated system ever to hit our shores. With the launch now behind us, we decided to take a look back and see how the PS2 fared against launches through history.

Magnavox Odyssey

Released: May 1972 • **Price:** \$100 • **App:** NONE • **Sample launch titles:** TABLE TENNIS, SIMON SAYS, BASEBALL, HAUNTED HOUSE, ROULETTE, STATES

The very first video game console was released with a fairly limited selection of games. But the console was sold only at Magnavox's own stores, where unscrupulous salesmen told consumers that it could be played on Magnavox TVs. Sales for the Odyssey jumped several months later when Atari's first arcade machine, Pong, made its debut.

Fairchild Channel F (a.k.a. Video Entertainment System)

Released: August 1976 • **Price:** \$169.95 • **Controller App:** NONE • **Tic-Tac-Toe, SHOOTING GALLERY**

The Channel F was the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge. It was also the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge.

Atari Video Computer System (a.k.a. VCS, 2600)

Released: October 1977 • **Price:** \$199.95 • **Controller App:** TANK, PONG • **COMBAT, VIDEO OLYMPICS, INDY 500, STREET RACER, BLACKJACK, SURROUND**

By 1977 Atari was a leader in the arcade market, and the company heavily promoted its first program, Space Invaders, on the Channel F. The VCS joined inter-changeable cartridges. Unlike Fairchild, Atari had a slot

Mattel Intellivision

Released: 1980 • **Price:** \$199.95 • **NBA BASKETBALL, NFL FOOTBALL, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL • Sample launch titles:** LAS VEGAS POKER & BLACKJACK, MATH FUN, ARMOR BATTLE, BACKGAMMON, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

The Intellivision was a home video game console developed by Mattel. It was released in 1980 and was the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge. It was also the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge.

was totally weak in the area of arcade games. Atari's timeline

Coleco ColecoVision

Released: August 1982 • **Price:** \$175 • **App:** DONKEY KONG • **TURBO, ZAXXON, COSMIC AVENGER**

The ColecoVision was a home video game console developed by Coleco. It was released in 1982 and was the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge. It was also the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge.

about frothing at the

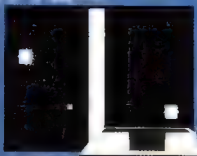
The ColecoVision was a home video game console developed by Coleco. It was released in 1982 and was the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge. It was also the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge.

Nintendo Entertainment System (NES)

Released: Fall 1985 • **Price:** \$249 WITH R.O.B., \$199 WITHOUT R.O.B. • **App:** SUPER MARIO BROTHERS • **DUCK HUNT, GYROMITE, PINBALL**

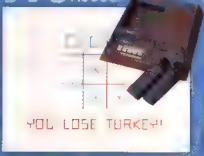
The NES was a home video game console developed by Nintendo. It was released in 1985 and was the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge. It was also the first console to have a built-in ability to change games without the need for a separate cartridge.

1972



MAGNAVOX ODYSSEY—First Console

1976 AUGUST



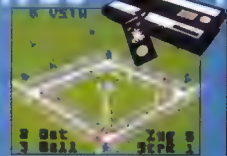
FAIRCHILD CHANNEL F—First Console

1977



ATARI VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM—First Console

1980



MATTEL INTELLIVISION—First Console

1982



COLECO COLECOVISION—First Console



The original Ridge Racer for PlayStation (left) and the latest incarnation for PS2 (right). Five years of technology makes a lot of difference.

the system outside Japan. When the system outside Japan, I saw one obstacle in the way. Atari The Nintendo executives felt Atari was just too big and popular to compete against. Instead, they offered Atari the worldwide rights (with the exception of Japan) to the Famicom. With the 7800 on its way, Atari wasn't interested. However,

plied the magazines with a ton of information about its new console. A library of 15 cartridges was available immediately, and *Altered Beast* along with one controller was packaged with the system. Sega also promised the Power Base Converter, a

THE ANIMALS, BATTLE CHESS, OCEANS BELOW
 fawkins didn't put any of the other
 he delivered his first five-year plan
 1. I mean, it's the only one

Nintendo 64

SEPT. 29, 1996 • \$199.95
SUPER MARIO 64 • \$199.95
PILOT WINGS 64

Ironically the system
that **resuscitated**
the **video game industry** came **not with a**
roar, but with a whisper.

PHOTOS: DAYTONA USA, CLOCKWORK KNIGHTS, WORLD OF SCULPT, PANTER DESIGN

Atari decided to go on the defensive, anyway. Just in case I could have one less competitor. Bad timing then came into play. Just before Atari could actually sign with Nintendo, the Great Day of Game Crash occurred and Nintendo no longer had to worry about Atari. Nintendo believed there was still a market for video games in the United States, but the stores, having been burnt by the previous systems, simply weren't interested. Nintendo began test-marketing the unit in the New York area in late 1985 and focused on toy stores. R.I.C. Toys was the first to carry the console, and the NES as a toy. The Trojan horse met withered, and the NES proved a success as a toy. Nintendo was in 1986.

peripherals, that allowed the Game Master System games.

Nintendo SNES

Released SEPT. 9, 1991 • Price: \$199.99 • Killer App: SUPER MARIO WORLD • Sample launch titles: PILOT WINGS, F-ZERO, GRADIUS III

The opening day of the triathlon was a total surprise even.

Sony PlayStation

SEPT. 9, 1995 • Fri. • \$299 •
 4PP RIDGE RACER • NAME YOUR BILL • AIR
 COMBAT, BATTLE ARENA TOSHINDEN, RAIDEN, WWF
 WRESTLEMANIA

Sega Genesis

Released AUGUST 1989 • Price \$199.99 •
4 App ALTERED BEAST • Sample
Titles GHOULS 'N GHOSTS, GOLDEN AXE, PHANTASY
STAR II, RAMBO III, SPACE HARRIER II, SUPER
HANG-ON, TOMMY LASORDA BASEBALL
When Sega planned to release its 16-bit
Drive in the United States under the

300

Released Oct. 4, 1993 • Price \$700 •
Killer App CRASH N BURN • Sample 213.00

new launch record
extra controllers and
den and Sony report
on 15 April market



1985 FALL
NINTENDO ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM—Super Mario Bros.

1989 SUMMER
SEGA GAME GEAR—Mushy Star 2

1991 WINTER
SEGA SATURN—Super Mario World

1995
SEGA SATURN—Virtua Fighter

1995
SEGA SATURN—Virtua Fighter



Playing Dress Up

Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2 has it all: sweet gameplay, raucous tunes and...licensed clothing. We've been blathering about what a great game it is forever, so as a change of pace we decided to show you some of the sick duds and accessories. We've even supplied you with Web sites so you don't have to waste your time searching for the stuff and you can get out and skate. Especially before the snow starts falling. Want our advice? Pick up a Diakka watch or a pair of TSA pants. Although who can argue with any of these goodies?



Elissa's duds aren't marked up with the TSA clothing logo in THPS2 because of PS one limitations. So you'll have to check out the eclectic goodness at www.tsaclothing.com.



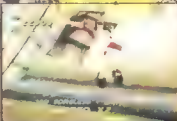
All right, so the above trick may look a little ridiculous, but Chad Muska's handstanding in comfort in some ankle-length TSA pants. Locate them at www.tsaclothing.com.



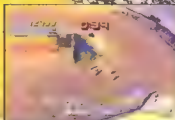
Bucky's throwing a sweet Stiffy at us to show off the Birdhouse board. Tony Hawk's very own company can be found at www.tonyhawkgames.com.



These moon shades are straight from the genius of Oakley. The pair on Mr. Burnquist (above) are discontinued, but you can find plenty of others perfect for skating at www.oakley.com.



You can't see Rune's watch clearly in this shot, but it's made by Diakka. These guys know how to make some of the sweetest, most durable watches on the market. www.diakka.com



If you don't have the right boots, you'll never feel like a pro skater. Tony finally started constructing shoes of his own. Check them out at www.tonyhawkgames.com or www.hawkshoes.com.

AFRO

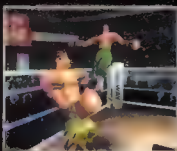


*Sometimes being the best
means having to spend
a whole lot on Afro Sheen.*

Uh huh. That's right. The King of the Ring, Afro Thunder, returns with more style, moves, taunts and punishing soul. Plus a spectrum of new features await like 13 outrageous new boxers including 5 special characters and 10 returning contenders. It's intense, over-the-top boxing action. Come on. I know you feel it now. Let's Get Ready To Rumble!



*Train with
Mini Games*



*New Ring-Clearing
Rumble Flourishes*



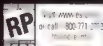
*New Taunts, Combos
and Animations*



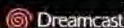
*23 Outrageous
Boxing Personalities*



*Sharper Single
Player Boxing*



Available for
Playstation 2



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*Character image taken from PlayStation 2



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WOTUL



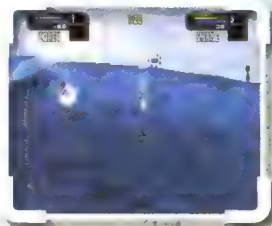
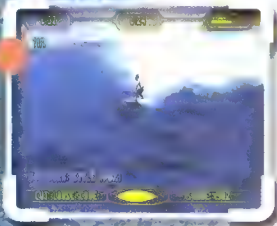
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TOMMY TALLARICO PLAYSTATION 2: SOUNDS GOOD TO ME

Lots of people are excited about PS2 for many reasons. And many people have asked me what it means for sound and how it will change the way we hear games. As far as audio goes, the greatest thing about the PS2 is memory and storage. The two biggest boundaries for sound designers and musicians have been memory limitations of the sound chip and a storage place to put it all. Last year when we were creating the sounds for Tony Hawk's Pro Skater we were constantly running into space-constraint issues. There were so many different surfaces the player could skate on, and we wanted to have as many different sounds as possible. This year when working on Spider-Man there were a lot of times when we wanted to have ambient sounds but couldn't afford the space. Music-wise, when creating the soundtrack for Tomorrow Never Dies there were certain times when the programmer needed to load in level information, so we had to try to hide the fact that the music just stopped or had gotten interrupted. In Pac-Man World the programmers had to use the disc for most of the game, so almost all the music had to be fit in small looping quantities on the sound chip. The PS2 gives us four times more space on our audio chip and endless amounts of storage space on the DVD.

So what exactly does this mean to the game player?

Well, from now on there's no reason why every game shouldn't have unique and dynamic sound effects and ambiances for every level. Ever play your favorite RPG and hear the same exact footstep sound a million times [cough...Final Fantasy]? Isn't it great when you enter a certain area and hear subtle environmental sounds like wind blowing or streams of water flowing? Won't it be nice to finally hear layered dynamic gears shifting on racing games [no more blender sounds!]? And what about the music? In the past musicians have always had to battle with programmers for space on the disc. A lot of times programmers need the disc in order to load in level information, graphics and other items. Because of massive storage capabilities and a broad enough band to interweave data streams, the days of crappy chip midi music should be over.

But alas, not every musician is a Beethoven and not every sound designer is Ben Burtt (Star Wars). You can have all the space in the world and still not be able to write a good tune. What this new format will do, however, is get the more talented composers and sound designers in the world, guys who don't already work on games, excited enough to want to work on this platform. As the quality of graphics, programming and games in general goes up, so too will the audio. It's a very exciting time for the video game industry!

Tommy Tallarico is the owner of *Tommy Tallarico Productions*, which produces audio for games. He has worked on titles including *For Honor*, *Final Fantasy VII*, *Metroid Prime*, *Star Wars: The Force Unleashed*, and *Spider-Man*. He can be reached at www.epontv.com.



Resident Evil Silver

By [illegible] and [illegible]

Resident Evil is a series of survival horror games developed and published by Capcom. The series is set in the fictional Raccoon City, which is the home of the Umbrella Corporation, a biotechnology company that is secretly conducting experiments on a deadly virus. The virus is designed to create a zombie apocalypse. The series follows the adventures of several characters, including the main protagonists, who are often members of a private investigation firm or a military unit. The games are known for their atmospheric and terrifying sound design, which is a key element of the series' success.

Zombified: The flicks that started it all

Night of the Living Dead

George A. Romero's *Night of the Living Dead* is the first of a series of zombie films. The film is set in a rural town where a group of people are trapped in a house as they are surrounded by a horde of zombies. The film is known for its graphic violence and its portrayal of the zombies as mindless, hungry creatures. The film was a commercial success and is considered a classic of the zombie genre.



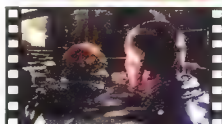
Dawn of the Dead

George A. Romero's *Dawn of the Dead* is the second film in the series. The film is set in a shopping mall where a group of people are trapped as they are surrounded by a horde of zombies. The film is known for its graphic violence and its portrayal of the zombies as mindless, hungry creatures. The film was a commercial success and is considered a classic of the zombie genre.



Return of the Living Dead

Robert Kurtzman's *Return of the Living Dead* is the third film in the series. The film is set in a small town where a group of people are trapped as they are surrounded by a horde of zombies. The film is known for its graphic violence and its portrayal of the zombies as mindless, hungry creatures. The film was a commercial success and is considered a classic of the zombie genre.



OVERHEARD: SNAKE'S MULLET

"I can't give too much away at this point, but I'll say that he's not in the military this time. I wanted to give him an image of a freewheeler in this game."

—Konami's Hideo Kojima talking about why Solid Snake has a beard in Metal Gear Solid 2

PS2 Powers Arcades



The first arcade projects running on the PS2-based arcade hardware known as System 246 were demonstrated at the recent JAMMA arcade show in Tokyo. Namco showed off a version of Ridge Racer V running in an arcade cabinet, which was definitely one of the hits of the show. While the game is virtually identical to the PS2 version, gamers were thrilled over the ability to play it against others, using the steering wheel and pedals. There's no word yet on if or when the Ridge Racer V arcade might hit U.S. arcades. Another title on display was Bloody Roar 3 from Raizing. The game will be released into Japanese arcades later this year, and will appear on the PS2 soon after.



Next to the Ridge Racer V arcade unit was the actual System 246 hardware in a display case. Several companies are rumored to be developing a handful of high-profile games for the hardware, including Namco with Soul Calibur 2, Tecmo with Dead or Alive 3, and Midway with Mortal Kombat 5.



Couples Who Play Together, Stay Together

Gaming rocks, and gaming with your mate rocks, particularly when it's this month's Official U.S. PlayStation Magazine. We're talking gaming couples, and you know we enjoy. We named a few: Jesse, a cook who also plays guitar for The Motor (themotor.org), and Aimee, 21, who bartends and sings in the band Gully Cock (Web site forthcoming). Gaming is one of 14 billion ways they get the r... of...es.

Jesse: A rockstar or a fireman. Or a cook at a sandwich shop, maybe. **Aimee:** I'd like to be a quest on Jerry Springer. Or a filmmaker.

Jesse: It's the only thing we enjoy together.

Aimee: Shut up. We played Jeopardy! when we first met. But Player Three, the computer, kept

winning. Player Three's a bastard. **Jesse:** Now we play Jeopardy! to relive the nostalgia of our halcyon days, back when we were fresh-faced youngsters. What was that? March? April?

Aimee: No comment. **Jesse:** It's no big deal. We play in bed. And while one person plays the other uses their, well, their tongue to break the other's concentration. It usually works.

Jesse: I think it's great. Tony Hawk 2 is a perfect example. If I'm rocks **Aimee:** I really don't think there's enough of it. It should continue. **Jesse:** You think about the Old Man or the way that sticks in your back and that'll make you crazy. It's a good thing to have a song stuck in

your head for once. Now that I think of it, I'd like to do a song for a game. **Aimee:** Check back in a couple weeks. We'll start piecing together a PlayStation album tomorrow.

Jesse: It's not like we get 40 drinks while we play. But we do. Actually, I'd like to try throwing back a fifth of Jack Daniels and playing a little Gran Turismo.

Jesse: There should be more games involving sex. It'd piss people off, but don't have a problem with it. **Aimee:** I want remakes of Atari games. But there's no way. **Jesse:** They should make a game based on the movie *French*. That would be rad. Oh, before I forget. We want to challenge that lesbian couple to a game-off.



WE WANT YOU!

If you play PlayStation games with your sweetie, we want to hear from you! Send us a letter telling us a little more about you and your gaming experiences together. If you are lucky you may find your ugly mugs and gaming story in our magazine. If you're going to send a pic, only send duplicates; materials cannot be returned due to the volume of letters we get. Send snail to DPM Couples c/o Ziff Davis Media Inc., PO Box 3338, Oak Brook, IL 60522-3338, or email us@DPMcouples.com. If you're selected as the Couple of the Month you'll win a free game along with us! (sorry!)

Dirty Deeds, Done to Sheep

SHEEP



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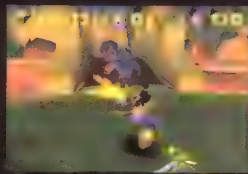
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Comic Mischief



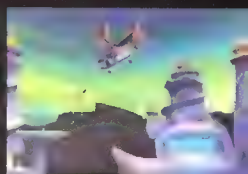
Can you take the heat?



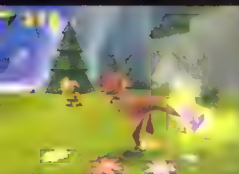
It's barbecue time.



Beatley, the yell with a mean left hook.



Aggro gets totally wot.



Get your kicks with Sheila.



Danger on the high seas.

Things are heating up. Celebrate the Year of the Dragon with Spyro as he joins forces with four new playable critters. Blaze through bigger worlds. Drive tanks, subs, speedboats, even launch rockets. Duke it out in the boxing ring or pull off sick tricks on your skateboard. Keep cool. It doesn't get any hotter than this.





SPIN

If YOU Ran The Video Games Industry

The masses have spoken. Apparently many of you just adore Snake's mullet and wish we never said all those nasty things about it. Let's move on now, shall we. Following are more of your thoughts on what you'd do if YOU ran the games industry. Keep those e-mails coming [send them to OPM@ziffdavis.com, marked "If We Ran Gaming!"], and we'll keep printing them. Who knows—maybe your loony rants will make a difference.

Family Feud

the term "survival horror" don't it

TCSH@aol.com

Gaymes for Gaymers?

1. *Introduction*
 2. *Background*
 3. *Methodology*
 4. *Results*
 5. *Discussion*
 6. *Conclusion*
 7. *References*
 8. *Appendix*
 9. *Index*
 10. *Table of Contents*
 11. *Abstract*
 12. *Keywords*
 13. *Subject Headings*
 14. *Summary*
 15. *Notes*
 16. *References*
 17. *Appendix*
 18. *Index*
 19. *Table of Contents*
 20. *Abstract*
 21. *Keywords*
 22. *Subject Headings*
 23. *Summary*
 24. *Notes*
 25. *References*
 26. *Appendix*
 27. *Index*
 28. *Table of Contents*
 29. *Abstract*
 30. *Keywords*
 31. *Subject Headings*
 32. *Summary*
 33. *Notes*
 34. *References*
 35. *Appendix*
 36. *Index*
 37. *Table of Contents*
 38. *Abstract*
 39. *Keywords*
 40. *Subject Headings*
 41. *Summary*
 42. *Notes*
 43. *References*
 44. *Appendix*
 45. *Index*
 46. *Table of Contents*
 47. *Abstract*
 48. *Keywords*
 49. *Subject Headings*
 50. *Summary*
 51. *Notes*
 52. *References*
 53. *Appendix*
 54. *Index*
 55. *Table of Contents*
 56. *Abstract*
 57. *Keywords*
 58. *Subject Headings*
 59. *Summary*
 60. *Notes*
 61. *References*
 62. *Appendix*
 63. *Index*
 64. *Table of Contents*
 65. *Abstract*
 66. *Keywords*
 67. *Subject Headings*
 68. *Summary*
 69. *Notes*
 70. *References*
 71. *Appendix*
 72. *Index*
 73. *Table of Contents*
 74. *Abstract*
 75. *Keywords*
 76. *Subject Headings*
 77. *Summary*
 78. *Notes*
 79. *References*
 80. *Appendix*
 81. *Index*
 82. *Table of Contents*
 83. *Abstract*
 84. *Keywords*
 85. *Subject Headings*
 86. *Summary*
 87. *Notes*
 88. *References*
 89. *Appendix*
 90. *Index*
 91. *Table of Contents*
 92. *Abstract*
 93. *Keywords*
 94. *Subject Headings*
 95. *Summary*
 96. *Notes*
 97. *References*
 98. *Appendix*
 99. *Index*
 100. *Table of Contents*
 101. *Abstract*
 102. *Keywords*
 103. *Subject Headings*
 104. *Summary*
 105. *Notes*
 106. *References*
 107. *Appendix*
 108. *Index*
 109. *Table of Contents*
 110. *Abstract*
 111. *Keywords*
 112. *Subject Headings*
 113. *Summary*
 114. *Notes*
 115. *References*
 116. *Appendix*
 117. *Index*
 118. *Table of Contents*
 119. *Abstract*
 120. *Keywords*
 121. *Subject Headings*
 122. *Summary*
 123. *Notes*
 124. *References*
 125. *Appendix*
 126. *Index*
 127. *Table of Contents*
 128. *Abstract*
 129. *Keywords*
 130. *Subject Headings*
 131. *Summary*
 132. *Notes*
 133. *References*
 134. *Appendix*
 135. *Index*
 136. *Table of Contents*
 137. *Abstract*
 138. *Keywords*
 139. *Subject Headings*
 140. *Summary*
 141. *Notes*
 142. *References*
 143. *Appendix*
 144. *Index*
 145. *Table of Contents*
 146. *Abstract*
 147. *Keywords*
 148. *Subject Headings*
 149. *Summary*
 150. *Notes*
 151. *References*
 152. *Appendix*
 153. *Index*
 154. *Table of Contents*
 155. *Abstract*
 156. *Keywords*
 157. *Subject Headings*
 158. *Summary*
 159. *Notes*
 160. *References*
 161. *Appendix*
 162. *Index*
 163. *Table of Contents*
 164. *Abstract*
 165. *Keywords*
 166. *Subject Headings*
 167. *Summary*
 168. *Notes*
 169. *References*
 170. *Appendix*
 171. *Index*
 172. *Table of Contents*
 173. *Abstract*
 174. *Keywords*
 175. *Subject Headings*
 176. *Summary*
 177. *Notes*
 178. *References*
 179. *Appendix*
 180. *Index*
 181. *Table of Contents*
 182. *Abstract*
 183. *Keywords*
 184. *Subject Headings*
 185. *Summary*
 186. *Notes*
 187. *References*
 188. *Appendix*
 189. *Index*
 190. *Table of Contents*
 191. *Abstract*
 192. *Keywords*
 193. *Subject Headings*
 194. *Summary*
 195. *Notes*
 196. *References*
 197. *Appendix*
 198. *Index*
 199. *Table of Contents*
 200. *Abstract*
 201. *Keywords*
 202. *Subject Headings*
 203. *Summary*
 204. *Notes*
 205. *References*
 206. *Appendix*
 207. *Index*
 208. *Table of Contents*
 209. *Abstract*
 210. *Keywords*
 211. *Subject Headings*
 212. *Summary*
 213. *Notes*
 214. *References*
 215. *Appendix*
 216. *Index*
 217. *Table of Contents*
 218. *Abstract*
 219. *Keywords*
 220. *Subject Headings*
 221. *Summary*
 222. *Notes*
 223. *References*
 224. *Appendix*
 225. *Index*
 226. *Table of Contents*
 227. *Abstract*
 228. *Keywords*
 229. *Subject Headings*
 230. *Summary*
 231. *Notes*
 232. *References*
 233. *Appendix*
 234. *Index*
 235. *Table of Contents*
 236. *Abstract*
 237. *Keywords*
 238. *Subject Headings*
 239. *Summary*
 240. *Notes*
 241. *References*
 242. *Appendix*
 243. *Index*
 244. *Table of Contents*
 245. *Abstract*
 246. *Keywords*
 247. *Subject Headings*
 248. *Summary*
 249. *Notes*
 250. *References*
 251. *Appendix*
 252. *Index*
 253. *Table of Contents*
 254. *Abstract*

James Campbell
SeaCorpse@aol.com

"Alexandra"
Address withheld by request

Choose or Lose

Shaun McGrath
TheDragoonMaster@aol.com

Clash of the Systems

"Franky Digital"
fofmodie@hotmail.com

Notes



**The
Adults-Only
rating needs to be
cracked
by someone.**

Give us Leisure Suit Larry, whatever, but allow adults the opportunity to play adult-oriented games.

-Jon Seals
jonseals@hotmail.com

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Take it to the Extreme! Modify then race one of eight customizable cars through some of the toughest tracks! Transform your vehicle to handle the terrain. But to win, you need fire power. Pick up machine guns and missile launchers to knock your opponents out! Because in this game, the best way to win is to make sure the other guys don't finish at all!



HITTING THE MARK

Are developers finally learning to cope with Sony's Emotion Engine?

Talk to any developer, pretty much, and you'll find the same answer: It doesn't matter how experienced they are or how many people they have or how many people they know, it's not that they're stupid, it's that the system is hard to program. It's the same old story that always comes up when talking about development for any new system. Sony's Emotion Engine, though, is different. At least it is for the few developers who certainly didn't come to the party with a pre-programmed system. When it first came out, the core developers were used to working in 3D.

Some individual talents took the bait as a Metal Gear Solid 2 challenge, that the system would work with it, but are quite happy to have figured out ways to get it to play. Others, such as the folks at the Japanese publisher Square, aren't the experts with a new piece of hardware, but matter who you talk to, that's not the way the system is being adopted. In fact, Square's staff is still getting their people to even get used to working directly to the Sony staff developers for the first time.

Clearly, the Emotion Engine is a challenge for many of the developers. "I've got a lot of work to do," says Brian Kojima, the chief executive officer of the Japanese publisher Square, who's been working on the system. "It's one of the most difficult development environments I've ever seen. I have to be very careful with the PS2, before, and I am spending a lot of time on the development of the hardware box to be able to work for it. We were slow to get started," says Kojima, who is now in the "smooth" phase. "But I think it's more like a marathon, hopefully we'll catch up."

For the first time, the Emotion Engine is a challenge for many of the developers. "I've got a lot of work to do," says Brian Kojima, the chief executive officer of the Japanese publisher Square, who's been working on the system. "It's one of the most difficult development environments I've ever seen. I have to be very careful with the PS2, before, and I am spending a lot of time on the development of the hardware box to be able to work for it. We were slow to get started," says Kojima, who is now in the "smooth" phase. "But I think it's more like a marathon, hopefully we'll catch up."

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"It will take three years for games to make complete use of the total potential of the PS2."

- Hideo Kojima

For the first time, the Emotion Engine is a challenge for many of the developers. "I've got a lot of work to do," says Brian Kojima, the chief executive officer of the Japanese publisher Square, who's been working on the system. "It's one of the most difficult development environments I've ever seen. I have to be very careful with the PS2, before, and I am spending a lot of time on the development of the hardware box to be able to work for it. We were slow to get started," says Kojima, who is now in the "smooth" phase. "But I think it's more like a marathon, hopefully we'll catch up."

What was wrong with early PS2 games?

Making better use of the hardware

THE PLAYERS



Martin Edmonson *Reflections* **Known for:** Driver
Progress with the PS2 is slower than we would have hoped due to the system's complexity. But with complexity you often get flexibility, which I believe we certainly have with the system. Experienced development teams will eventually get some stunning results.



Al Hastings *Insomniac* **Known for:** *Spyro* series
The PS2 requires an immense amount of planning and patience and down-and-dirty assembly programming to bring out its potential. Considering the complexity of the system, you really don't want to make any mistakes when designing your software, or you could find yourself in a world of hurt down the road.



Hideo Kojima Konami Known for: Metal Gear Solid
This is a big problem. I think every developer is facing these same issues. They develop just a little piece of a PS2 title and say that "this is no good" or "this system can produce much better graphics." And then they are hesitant to progress with their games, and would rather wait to see the other companies' cards first.



Keiji Inafune **Capcom** **Known for:** Onimusha
It is gradually becoming easier to develop for the PS2 as we get used to the hardware. But we have also now established some basic "know-how," which makes the development for PS2 a lot easier than before. The overwhelming quality of the graphics is a huge advantage in developing the games.



Shigeru Yokoyama **Namco** **Known for:** Ridge Racer V
With the first-generation titles, it's difficult to develop software that can take advantage of all the power of the PS2. I think we have not yet exploited the system's ultimate potential. However, we put together our top talent and our best technology to make the best games possible for this new system.



Qave Perry Shiny Known for: Earthworm Jim
Clearly, texture memory will be our biggest bottleneck on the PS2. It's something we will solve, but let's just say, it is no painting by numbers. But consoles are a strange beast. There is *always* a way to milk them more and more. It just takes time to find out how. So expect a good, healthy curve on PS2.



Jez San Argonaut Known for: Croc series
Taking maximum advantage of the PS2 will require custom game engines designed for the PS2 and games designed around the advantages it offers, while hiding its disadvantages. The biggest challenge is how to make the parallel processors run together and work in parallel without blocking each other.

What the heck is so Emotional about that Engine?

Web site [Arstechnica.com](http://arstechnica.com) features a good analysis of the Emotion Engine and some of the other processors under the PS2's hood. If you're of the technical sort, give the full article a read at: <http://arstechnica.com/revIEWS/ps2/ps2cpu.html>

Says Jon Stokes, author of the feature: "Not only does the Emotion Engine have horsepower under the hood, but its aggressively new, cutting-edge design means that it's going to take awhile for developers to really learn to use all that power. It'll be interesting to see if the PC has caught up with the PS2 by the time PS2 developers figure out how to exploit this hardware to its fullest potential."



PLAY WITH YOUR OWN DARK ANGEL

By now you've no doubt had a chance to check out 19-year-old Jessica Alba in the James Cameron-produced sci-fi series for Fox, *Dark Angel*. As you'd expect with such a high-profile genre project, the game companies have been lining up to get the interactive rights for the show, which already has 13 episodes in the can. Current rumors indicate that Fox itself will be publishing the game, although no developer has been announced yet.

www.fox.com/darkangel

EPISODE II WRAPS PHOTOGRAPHY

Star Wars: Episode II finally finished principal photography at 1:45 p.m. local time Sept. 20 at Elstree Studios in London after two months of shooting. The mammoth sequel apparently wrapped one and a half days ahead of schedule. The last take of the day involved Ewan McGregor (Obi-Wan Kenobi) performing an action sequence against a blue screen.

www.starwars.com

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

We've heard rumors from multiple sources that the new writer on *Amazing Spider-Man* is Babylon 5 creator J. Michael Straczynski. Sci-fi fans will no doubt be goosy at the prospect of this talented guy penning the script, but Straczynski's strengths don't really lie in dialogue. Will Spidey's sarcastic quips suffer? Let's hope not. Elsewhere in the Spidey camp director Sam Raimi has hired a composer for the music (What? No theme from the TV show?). Fans of spooky music and the theme from *Batman* and *The Simpsons* will be overjoyed to learn that Danny Elfman will be providing the tunes. Finally, you may have read rumors that production on the movie has been pushed back, and less scrupulous Hollywood reporters were speculating that the production was doomed. But the delay in principal photography isn't necessarily a bad thing. The production won't be affected by the much-hyped Hollywood strike, and we should still see Spidey late next year.

www.sfx.co.uk

PLANET OF THE APES KEEPS NAME

Tim Burton's remake of *Planet of the Apes* will retain the 1968 movie's title and won't be called *The Visitor* as previously rumored, according to The Dark Horizons Web site. Fox's game is still not ready for us to look at properly.

www.darkerhorizons.com

PI GUY FOR BATMAN: YEAR ONE

Variety has confirmed rumors that David Goyer (who wrote the script for *Batman Returns*) will direct the fifth installment of the ailing Batman movie franchise, *Year One*. Goyer will write and develop the screenplay with the much-revered Frank Miller, author of the graphic novel of the same name. Warner Bros. will produce the movie, as it did with the previous four. Miller's comic series chronicled the evolution of Bruce Wayne into Batman, paralleled by the rise of police lieutenant James Gordon as he battles corruption in the Gotham City force. The studio reportedly

hopes to resurrect the Batman movie series, whose last installment, Joel Schumacher's *Batman & Robin*, was widely acknowledged as an embarrassment to the franchise and was panned by critics (it did OK at the box office, though, partly thanks to George Clooney). Warner Bros. is also developing a live-action movie based on The WB Kids Network's animated series *Batman Beyond*. The project is lead director Boaz Yakin and series creators Paul Dini and Man Barnett, with help from cyberpunk novelist Neal Stephenson (*Cryptonomicon*). Variety reported.

www.variety.com

INDY 4'S HIDDEN DRAGON

Hong Kong action star Michelle Yeoh told Cinescape Online that she was in talks to co-star in the next Indiana Jones movie. Yeoh told Cinescape contributor G. Allen Johnson that she'd chatted with Indy 4 director Steven Spielberg. "We had a couple of meetings, and we did talk about [Indy 4]," Yeoh said. "He is one guy who has a passion for filmmaking. He's inspiring. And I love the Indiana Jones films. Would I be interested? Of course I'm going to jump up and say, 'Yes, please!'" Harrison Ford told SCI FI Wire that he'd be interested in reprising the title role in a sequel if he, Spielberg and producer George Lucas can agree on a script, as we reported last month. Rumor has it that director M. Night Shyamalan (*Unbreakable*) is writing an early script for the movie.

www.cinescape.com

THE ROCK IS SCORPION

Popular WWF wrestler The Rock has signed on for Universal's *Scorpion King* project, a spinoff of the coming *Mummy Returns*, Cinescape Online reports. The film will be set in ancient Egypt and tells the story of a peasant whose village is plundered by a marauding army intent on conquering Egypt. In order to exact his revenge, the anti-hero must compromise his integrity by joining a band of outlaws. Universal is said to be fast-tracking the film, which has a script by Jonathan Hales (*Star Wars: Episode III*). Expect an announcement about an accompanying game title to follow shortly, although we do know the U.K.-based developer Rebellion, which is producing *The Mummy* game for Fox Interactive, is unlikely to work on the project.

www.cinescape.com

IRON MAN'S NEW LOOK?

It seems that the coming Iron Man movie will feature a different-looking golden avenger than we've seen in the comics. While talking to E! Online, a Marvel Film senior VP revealed that Iron Stark's alter ego may not be the red and gold version we know and love, saying, "You always use the comic book as the starting point. You see what works and doesn't work on camera. We don't want him looking like a walking Academy Award." Activision is rumored to be working on an Iron Man game as part of its Marvel license deal, but it's likely that the hero will appear in both traditional and movie costumes, as with X-Men Mutant Academy.

www.eonline.com

photography by Greg Gorman Corbis Outlines

STREET FIGHTER EX3



Capcom's legendary fighting series heralds a new generation of games in Street Fighter EX3. Awe-inspiring realism and unbelievable graphics bring the world of Street Fighter to life in this amazing tag-team free-for-all. Choose from 16 characters to play 1-on-1, 2-on-1 and even 1-on-3 battles!

PlayStation.2



ANIMATED 4D, F.A.C.E.

PlayStation.2



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capcom.com

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GOSSIP, RUMOR AND SCANDAL. GAMING'S BIGGEST SECRETS DUG UP AND SERVED WITH GRAVY

Sony held a big bash in San Francisco just prior to the launch of the PS2 to show new games, talk about the shortages of machines on day one, and generally show everyone a great time. It was a huge games industry event that sucked in media from all over the country who proceeded to suck down the sauce and spew out the gossip. Fortunately I was there (drunk, dancing like an idiot and surrounded by other soused games journoes) and managed to get huge amounts of gossip in between sips of vodka and Red Bull.

ONLINE GAMES IN DEVELOPMENT AT SONY'S STUDIOS

Despite repeated assertions by Sony bigwigs that no online plans were readily available to comment upon, SCEA's VP of product development Shuhei Yoshida let slip that all of the company's internal divisions have been working on Internet experiences for some time. But what are they? Obviously no one at Sony could tell me anything specific, but a few contacts "in the know" (or maybe just some folks with a good line of BS) are convinced that all of the sports games are set to go online by their 2002 editions. Also, expect another Cool Boarders game with online tournaments and maybe a resurrection of the Jet Moto franchise. There are rumors kicking around that Warhawk may get pulled out of the closet at some point too. Remember that little beauty from five years ago? The new game will be more than just a mission

based shooter, possibly being a massively multiplayer combat game with huge campaigns and vast worlds. How cool would that be? I'll tell you how cool. Very.

MORE EA ONLINE GOSSIP

After last month's clanger concerning the new Ultima game for PS2 that's to come bundled with a modem, it seems that EA Games, Sports and com are building lots of ideas around getting PS2 users online early. Once the modems are out there it looks like pretty much the entire EA back catalog will be gradually put online so that you can either download them for a limited time, or play them "live" from the site. In terms of catalog, it's not clear yet how far back they're thinking of going, but one of my sources hinted that it could possibly include stuff like all the old Ultimas. Obviously there'd be some kind of bling, you'd think—but some of the really old stuff could feasibly turn up as freeware. I'll keep updating you on this one each month.

ROCKIN' SEQUELS FRENZY

The PS2 has certainly helped inspire some new franchises, but we've also heard that a whole bunch of sequels are in the works for new games and old. Rockstar is certainly pushing this particular envelope with Midnight Club 2 and Smuggler's Run 2 already in development, and Grand Theft Auto 3 well on track for a 2001 release. Expect to see a completely new Duke Nukem game too (not a



Cliché MacLaver Gossip Gossip

Rumor Mill

Tecmo Bowl is coming to PS2. Remember the original? Remember the crappy versions that have come since? The new game will apparently be a side-on affair just like the original and is described by insiders as being very "arcadey." The producer from the original is on board. • *Treasure is working on an action/adventure for PS2 that also includes some strategy game elements which sound a little like Lionhead's Black & White. Speaking of which, the much-anticipated brainchild of Peter Molyneux will be out on both PS one and PS2 by the middle of next year. • Dynasty Warriors 3 is currently in development and will boast even more on-screen characters (as far as possible?) and hopefully less eye-eating references. • Word on the street from Capcom HQ is that there's a completely new Mega Man series of games heading to PS2 next year.*

version of Duke Nukem Forever, as previously rumored. I'll still not clear if the new Duke game will be a first-person shooter or a third-person action/adventure, but Rockstar reps seem keen to stress that the series will be returning closer to its roots.

SOMETHING ELSE FROM THE TIMESPLITTERS GUYS

TimeSplitters is universally regarded as being a "kick-ass" (as you Americans say) game, but did you know that this isn't the "main" project the boys at Free Radical are working on? Apparently the game was basically something of a side project for the team so Eidos would have a big launch title ready. The real deal should be out around this time next year, and apparently does far more to show the kind of pedigree this team has. As you know, the FR guys worked on GoldenEye and Perfect Dark, so a more narrative-driven first-person action game looks like a cert.

PEGASUS LEADS THE WAY FOR A NEW LUCAS FRANCHISE

The new adventure game from LucasArts that I mentioned in Rumor Mill a couple of issues ago seems to be taking shape nicely. I've recently learned that the name of the project is Pegasus and that it will be coming to PS2. There are still no specific details on gameplay or even themes, but the company has dabbled with Greek mythology in the past. I'll keep you posted as I sniff around. This looks to be the first step toward a less Star Wars centric LucasArts though. There's talk in the air that the company's offices in California of some old franchises being brought into the 21st century with some old

PC adventure game favorites likely to hit within two years. The new Monkey Island game seems ripe for a PS2 transition, but what really has our juices flowing here in the OPM offices is the prospect of a new Sam Max game from comic genius Steve Purcell. Or how about a sequel to Day of the Tentacle? Not everyone will remember these wonderful games, but those who do are probably getting very excited right now.

HASBRO MAKES A MESS OF A CLASSIC

Personally, I'm not a big fan of any of Hasbro's "interpretations" of any old games, but I guess many of them have sold spectacularly well. When the toy giant acquired the rights to all of the Atari games awhile ago, one of the first projects put into development was a new version of the awesome and groundbreaking (in the early '80s) Star Raiders. Apparently, everything has gone horribly wrong since, and no one concerned is happy with the results. Don't expect to see this one released. Unlike many of its other not particularly wonderful remakes, Hasbro apparently has the decency to deprive us of this one.

PS2 QUAKE III TO INCLUDE TEAM ARENA?

Things have been pretty quiet on the Quake PS2 front lately, but I have heard that the team is looking to integrate a lot of the ideas from the forthcoming PC update of Quake III, which is designed to take on the latest batch of team-based online games. This surely means that we won't see the game until well after the broadband Internet systems are up and running next year. Could this be the next big trend? Hope so.



TWO WARRING NATIONS...

A MISSING PRINCESS...

BREATH OF FIRE IV

AN EPIC QUEST FOR PEACE.

After centuries of war, the two lands bordering an impenetrable swampland have finally reached an armistice. Mysteriously, the noble princess Elena disappears somewhere near the war-ravaged front lines. Distraught, her sister Nina goes in search of the Princess alone and on her journey, meets a mysterious, young warrior named Ryu. Their destinies soon entwine. The next chapter in the epic tale of magic and mystery now unfolds. The fate of what lies ahead rests in your control.

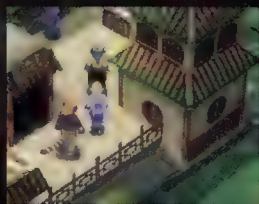


"VISUALLY
BREATHTAKING!"

—Game Pro Magazine



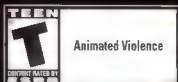
Two epic intertwining storylines—Follow the fates of Ryu and Fou-Lu in a classic RPG adventure.



Choose your allies well. Gain experience and master the skills needed to survive in this epic 3-D world.



Release the dragon within...more than 200 spells to learn and master.



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YEAH, I'VE TRIED SNOWBOARDING WITH AMATEUR RIDERS. BUT IT WAS LAME.

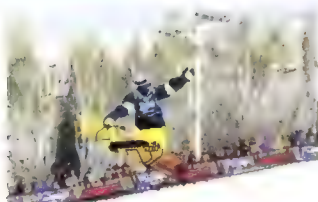
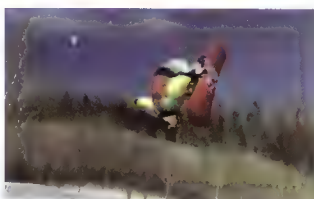
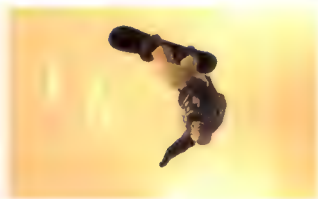
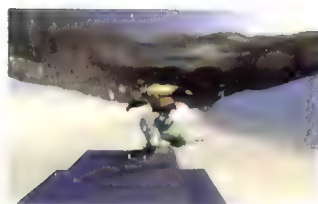
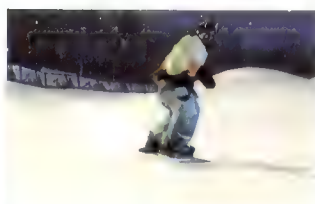
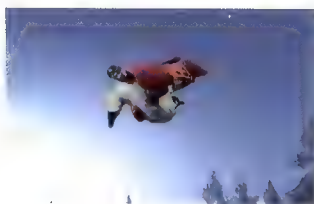


PlayStation 2



1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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ICE COLD

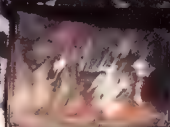
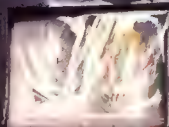
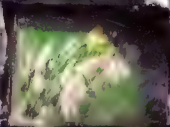
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INSTRUCTIONS

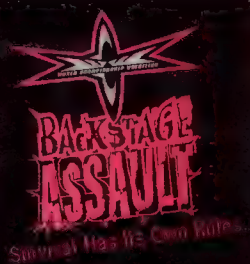
1. BEND AT KNEES
2. YANK FROM WALL
3. DROP ON OPPONENT UNTIL HE EATS THROUGH A STRAW.



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www.backstageassault.com



Crates in the boiler room. Urinals in the bathroom. Anything within reach is now a weapon. Backstage isn't just part of the arena. It's part of your arsenal.

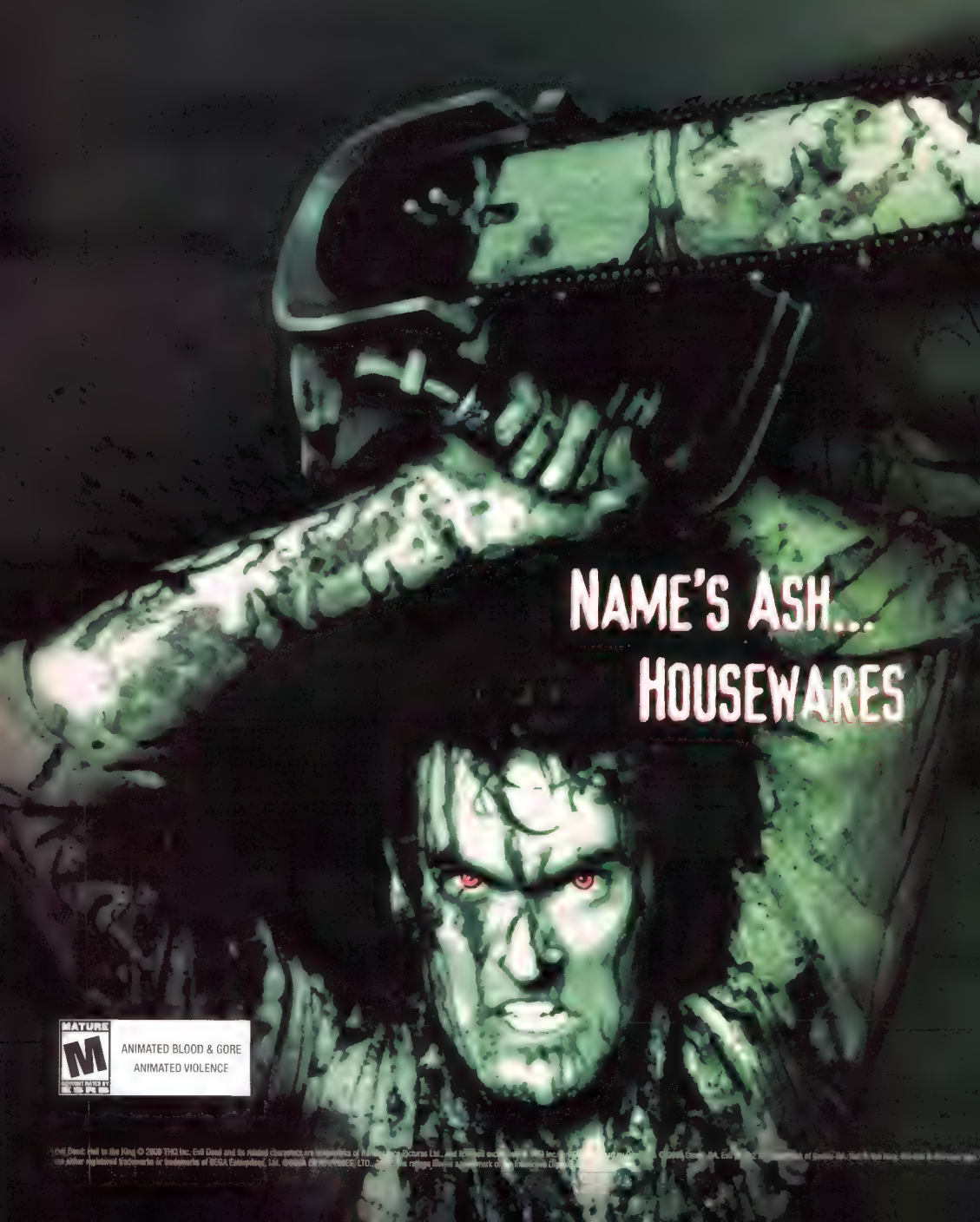


THE EVIL DEAD

NAME'S ASH...
HOUSEWARES

MATURE
M
ANIMATED BLOOD & GORE
ANIMATED VIOLENCE

DVD

[illegible]

EVIL DEAD

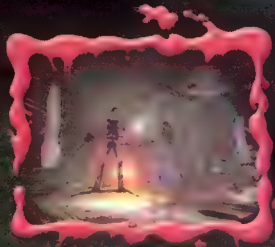
HAIL TO THE KING™

CHAINSAWS, BOOMSTICKS,
AND DEADITES, OH MY!

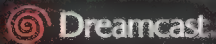
SLICE AND DICE THE UNDEAD
WITH A WEAPON IN EACH HAND.

FIGHT EVIL ACROSS THE SPANS OF TIME: FROM
THE INFAMOUS CABIN TO ANCIENT DAMASCUS.

BEST OF ALL . . .
BRUCE CAMPBELL AS ASH!



Screenshots from Sega Dreamcast



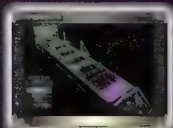
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RAINBOW SIX
ROGUE SPEAR™

**RAINBOW SIX IS BACK...
AND TOUGHER THAN EVER!**

- Experience a unique blend of strategy and stealth!
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- 19 missions, including some from the PC mission pack, *Rogue Spear: Urban Operations!*



Realistic Violence
Animated Blood and Gore



You see yourself
as a great warrior...

Your opponents see
you as spare parts.



ARENA



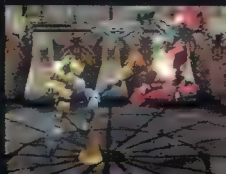
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10 menacing robots, each
with its own special way
to turn enemies into
scrap metal.



Devastate your opponent
with weaponry like
missiles, flame throwers
and lasers.



Learn incredible combo
moves that will make your
competitor's head spin
(if it's still attached).



Rock 'Em Sock 'Em" Robots Arena gives you the power to rip off your opponent's body parts and attach them to yourself. Turn your enemy into rubbish with their own weapons. Or save the parts you collect for future victims. The more you win, the more powerful you become. You're not just competing for pride and honor, you're fighting for limbs.

TOP TWENTY



1 Madden NFL 2001

Last Month: — EA Sports ●●●●●

After last season's masterful pigskin effort, EA exceeded the expectations of even the most rabid football fans with this year's edition. The game mastered the always sought, rarely achieved risk/reward aspect of the real NFL. And the physics are wound tighter than John Randle. We said it was arguably one of the best PlayStation games ever, but there shouldn't be much of an argument that it's the best PS one football game ever. It's nice to see such a prime game on the top of the sales charts, and will it be replaced by its Hollywood-faced, sleek-suited PS2 brother? Time and consumers will soon tell.



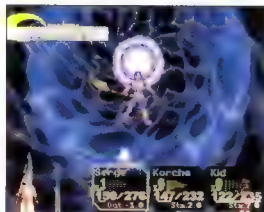
2 Gran Turismo 2

Last Month: 11 Sony CEA ●●●●●

We called this the "greatest racing game ever made" when we reviewed GT2 last February, and we're sticking to that—at least until GT3 comes out. While you're waiting for Sony's next driving masterpiece to be released, comfort yourself with GT2's heady package of 600 cars, 27 courses and the most accurate racing engine ever created. And be sure to tune in next month for our exclusive feature on GT3, which'll be packed with tons of new screens and info.

	Last Month	Title / Publisher	Rating
1	—	Madden NFL 2001 EA Sports	●●●●●
2	11	Gran Turismo 2 Sony CEA	●●●●●
3	—	Chrono Cross Square EA	●●●●●
4	—	Spider-Man Activision	●●●●●
5	1	Tony Hawk's Pro Skater Activision	●●●●●
6	3	Spec Ops: Stealth Patrol Take 2 Interactive	●●●●●
7	—	NFL GameDay 2001 989 Studios	●●●●●
8	4	Driver GT Interactive	●●●●●
9	—	CTR: Crash Team Racing Sony CEA	●●●●●
10	5	WWF SmackDown! THQ	●●●●●
11	10	Tekken 3 Namco	●●●●●
12	—	Spyro 2: Ripto's Rage! Sony CEA	●●●●●
13	9	Syphon Filter 2 989 Studios	●●●●●
14	13	Syphon Filter 989 Studios	●●●●●
15	—	Final Fantasy VIII Square EA	●●●●●
16	16	Crash Bandicoot: WARPED Sony CEA	●●●●●
17	18	Namco Museum Vol. 3 Namco	●●●●●
18	2	NCAA Football 2001 EA Sports	●●●●●
19	15	Metal Gear Solid Konami	●●●●●
20	8	Legend of Dragoon Sony CEA	●●●●●

SOURCE: NPD GROUP's New Games Sales report for September 2001. Data from 11/6/01 to 2/8/02 for all games who sold 10,000+ in the game. For competing console systems (e.g., Xbox, Dreamcast) were included. Data is quarterly sales, cumulative sales are not included in the CPU staff.



3 Chrono Cross

Last Month: — Square EA ●●●●●

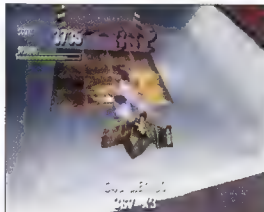
The best PS one RPG? It's definitely up there. But with the release of Final Fantasy X, this one's got some serious competition in store.



4 Spider-Man

Last Month: — Activision ●●●●●

We're not surprised by the Webhead swinging into the top five. We are, on the other hand, surprised by Chris Baker's clunky new Spidey outfit.



5 Tony Hawk's Pro Skater

Last Month: 1 Activision ●●●●●

Ahh, the freefall has begun. But fear not! Certainly the sequel will ollie and grind its way to the top five in no time at all.

OPM's Most Wanted PS2 Games

- 1 Metal Gear Solid 2 Konami
- 2 Sou. Reaver 2 Eidos
- 3 Munch's Oddysee Infogrames
- 4 Silpheed Working Des.
- 5 Star Wars: Starfighter LucasArts
- 6 Dark Cloud Sony CEA
- 7 Gran Turismo 2000 Sony CEA
- 8 Zone of the Enders Konami
- 9 NBA Hoopz Midway
- 10 Futurama Fox Int.

OPM's Most Wanted PS Games

- 1 Final Fantasy IX Square EA
- 2 Alone in the Dark 2 Infogrames
- 3 Driver 2 Infogrames
- 4 Fear Effect: Retro Helix Eidos
- 5 The World Is Not Enough EA Games
- 6 WWF SmackDown! 2 THQ
- 7 Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX Activision
- 8 Dragon Warrior VII Enix
- 9 Mega Man X5 Capcom
- 10 Dukes of Hazzard 2 Southpeak

Japan's Top 10 PS and PS2 Games

- 1 Dragon Quest VII Enix
- 2 Genso Suiko Gaiden Vol. 1 Konami
- 3 Dino Crisis 2 Capcom
- 4 Gekikukan Pro Baseball Square
- 5 World Soccer 2000 Konami
- 6 Ring of Red Konami
- 7 KeyboardMama Konami
- 8 G-Savior Sunrise
- 9 Sangokushi VII Koei
- 10 Silpheed Capcom

U.K.'s Top 10 PlayStation Games

- 1 Tony Hawk 2 Activision
- 2 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire Eidos
- 3 Spider-Man Activision
- 4 Sydney 2000 Eidos
- 5 Tenchu 2 Atlus
- 6 TOCA World Touring Cars Codemasters
- 7 Rayman Ubi Soft
- 8 Rayman 2 Ubi Soft
- 9 Driver Infogrames
- 10 Tony Hawk's Pro Skater Activision

In Your Face Terror

Residence terror in first person perspective
Introducing Resident Evil Survivor



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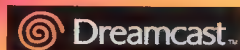
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Unreal™ TOURNAMENT

ALSO ON

100 HEAVY-DUTY STAPLES



PlayStation 2

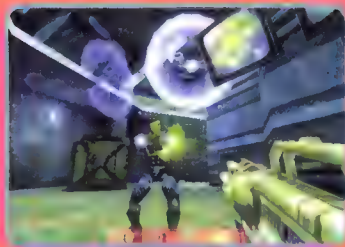
MODEL **UT-00**

HEAD BLOW'D OFF REPAIR KIT

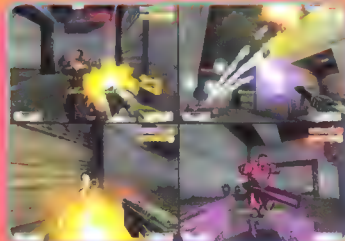
ON REATTACHING ARMS, LEGS AND FINGERS!

INCLUDED WITH STAPLE GUN

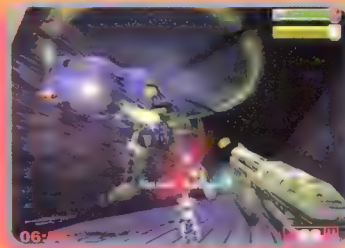
2 Year
Limited
Warranty
Available



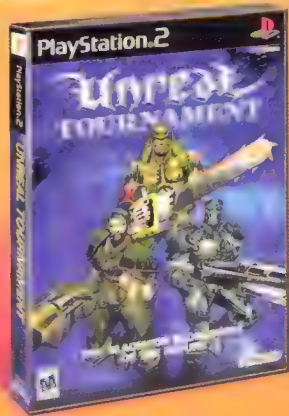
Unreal™ Tournament features the most powerful and fastest-paced first-person shooter ever created. With its stunning graphics, intense action, and a variety of weapons and abilities, it's the ultimate test of skill and strategy.



Unreal™ Tournament is a first-person shooter game developed by Epic Games and published by Epic Games. It is the second game in the Unreal series, following Unreal. The game features a variety of weapons and abilities, and is set in a dark, industrial environment.



Unreal™ Tournament is a first-person shooter game developed by Epic Games and published by Epic Games. It is the second game in the Unreal series, following Unreal. The game features a variety of weapons and abilities, and is set in a dark, industrial environment.





You know the rules.



PlayStation 2

湾岸 MIDNIGHT CLUB

STREET RACING

In secret gatherings around the world a mysterious group of urban street racers, known as the Midnight Club, race for pride, power and glory in sleekly customized, tricked-out sports cars. Speeding through crowded streets, running red lights, terrorizing pedestrians, driving on sidewalks and outrunning the cops are just the basics for the 'Midnight Club'.

Racing action in two accurately modeled cities on both sides of the Atlantic - New York and London!

17 different performance enhanced cars to race - concept prototypes, foreign sports cars, muscle cars and pickup trucks.

Play in a persistent world - with interactive traffic, pedestrians and law enforcement.

Win the pink slips of opposing players! Rise up through the ranks in the illicit world of the Midnight Club.

Winning cars are tuned up with equipment from street-racing specialists such as Dimmer, VellSide, Zender, Neuspeed, Wings West and more...

Cutting edge soundtrack from some of the world's leading techno/drum and bass artists - Dom and Roland, Derrick May and Surgeon

Release date: PlayStation 2 Launch

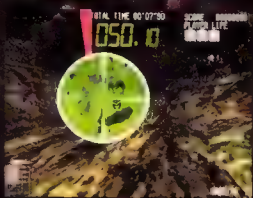
www.rockstargames.com/midnightclub

There are no rules.



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PlayStation 2

Dreamcast



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Previewed Inside

Blood	113	Q-Ball: Billiards Master	118
The Bouncer	124	Rayman 2: Revolution	112
Carrier	115	RC Revenge Pro	116
Cool Boarders Alien	113	Real Pool	117
Dropship	118	Silent Hill 2	114
Eden	116	Silpheed	115
ESPN Snowboarding	124	Sky Odyssey	122
Gran Turismo 3	110	Super Bust-A-Move	118
Kengo: MoB	112	Surfing H3O	122
Kessen II	114	Top Gear: Dare Devil	124
Legacy of Kain: SR2	117	Twisted Metal: Black	111
Mobile Suit Gundam	122	Unreal Tournament	112
ModernGroove	116	WDL: Thunder Tanks	114

Coming Soon

November

Disney's Disney Duck	Ubi Soft	Action	Sony CEA	Action
ESPN NBA 2K4	Konami	Sports	SC	Puzzle
ESPN NFL PrimeTime	Konami	Sports	Armadillo 2	Action
ESPN X Games: Snowboarding	Konami	X-Sports	Barbar's Gate	RPG
FIFA 2001 MLS	EA Sports	Sports	Black & White	Adventure
F1 Championship Season 2001	EA Sports	Racing	Bust-A-Move 3	Dancing
F1 Racing Championship	Ubi Soft	Racing	CART Fury	Racing
Godicus III and IV	Konami	Shooter	Dark Cloud	RPG
ModernGroove	TBA	Misc	Dragon's Lair 3D	Adventure
NASCAR 2001	EA Sports	Racing	Dracoon	Adventure
Q-Ball: Billiards Master	Table 2	Sports	Dropship	Action
Rayman Revolution	Ubi Soft	Action	Euro	Adventure
Ready 2 Rumble: Round 2	Midway	Sports	Ephemeral Fantasia	RPG
Super Bust-A-Move	Activision	Puzzle	Evil Twin	Adventure
Sky Odyssey	Activision	Action	Extermination	Adventure
Theme Park Roller Coaster	EA Games	Action	Final Fantasy X	RPG
WDL: Thunder Tanks	3DO	Action	Final Fantasy X	RPG

December

Age of Empires II	Konami	Strategy	Gauntlet 2	Adventure
Army Men: Air Attack 2	3DO	Action	The Getaway	Adventure
Army Men: Sarge's Heroes 2	3DO	Action	Ghost Master	Racing
Corner: Marshall	Infocom	Adventure	G.I. Joe	Strategy
Formula 1 2000	EA Sports	Racing	Gunslinger	Adventure
MDK 2: Armageddon	Interplay	Sports	Harry Potter	Adventure
NBA Live 2001	EA Sports	Sports	Herby Herby	Adventure
Oni	Rockstar	Adventure	ICO	Adventure
Star Wars: Starfighter	Rockstar	Action	Kessen I	Strategy
Warriors of Might and Magic	3DO	Adventure	Legacy of Kain: Blood Omen 2	Adventure

Q1 2001

4x4 Evolution	G.O.D.	Racing	The Last	Adventure
All-Star Baseball 2002	Activision	Sports	Linux: Extreme Challenge	Adventure
Army Men: Heli's Adventures	3DO	Action	Maximo	Racing
The Bouncer	Square EA	Action	Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons of Liberty	Adventure
Dart Attack Vengeance	Midway	Adventure	Millie Miglio Racing	Adventure
Driving Emotion Type-S	Square EA	Racing	Mobile Suit Gundam	Action
ESPN MLS Game Night	Konami	Sports	Motor Mayhem	Action
Fur Fighters	Activision	Action	NASCAR Heat	Racing
Gunpoint: Dark Legacy	Midway	Action	Navy SEALs	Action
Gran Turismo 3	Sony CEA	Racing	No One Lives Forever	Adventure
High Heat Baseball 2002	3DO	Sports	Books and Crayons	Adventure
Kengo: Master of Bushido	Crowe	Fighting	Prayers of Skull Core	Adventure
Kendo: Kings 2001	EA Sports	Sports	Real Fiction	Shooter
Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver 2	Edios	Adventure	Run Like Hell	Adventure
Legion: Legend of Excalibur	Midway	Adventure	Silent Hill 2	Adventure
NBA Hoopz	Midway	Sports	Stargate	Action
Oni: Oni	Capcom	Adventure	Star Squad	Action
Star Wars: Super Bombad	LucasArts	Racing	V.I.P.	Adventure
Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2001	EA Sports	Sports	Virtual Ocean	Action
Ultimate Fighting Championship	Crowe	Wrestling	Wipeout Fusion	Racing
WDL: War Jetz	3DO	Action	The World Is Not Enough	Shooter

Other 2001 Releases

7 Blades	Konami	Action	Zone of the Enders	Konami	Action
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Gran Turismo 3

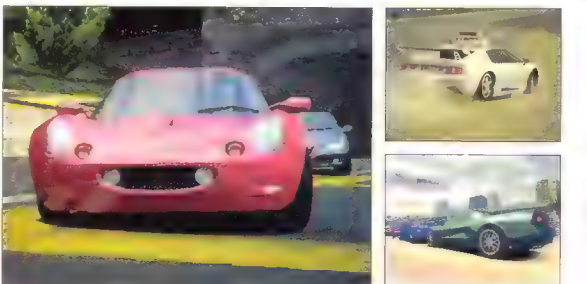
New name, but no less amazing

since releasing something with a name like Gran Turismo 2000 makes

early 2001

h. Sony CEA

I must not be a





Smart Racers

One major improvement to GT2 is that your opponents are just plain smarter. Says SCEA's Susan Nourai, "In GT2, the opponent cars kind of raced in packs and it seemed a little patterned. Now, each and every car that you race against will be able to react emotionally to what you do. So, if you pass someone on the inside or cut them off, they will come after you; they will tailgate you—it'll become a rivalry between you and the other car."



The Weather

Sure, weather in racing games isn't exactly a new concept, but GT3 might just take the concept to the next level. "Weather conditions in the game pose new challenges," says SCEA's Susan Nourai. "Whether it's a glaring sun [right], a dense fog in Seattle or rain, your sight and depth of visibility become impaired, and your physics in your car change and alter to weather conditions. Authentic to the core, this game is based on authenticity and realism."



Twisted Metal: Black

More twisted than ever

We all know a PS2 version of Twisted Metal

excitement you saw
The Twisted Metal

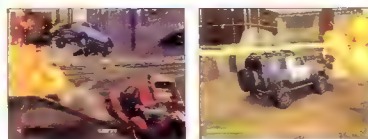
Sony CEA Day 3 after sum trip
developed by Incognito Studios

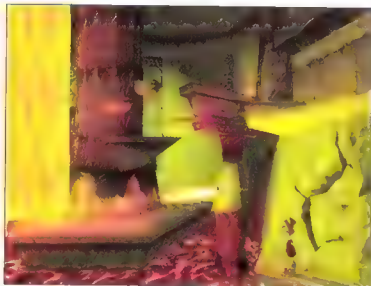
made up of every single key
Not enough for you? How about



Sweet Tooth the Decepticon?

Aside from the dark, macabre movies that helped inspire TMB, we have to think that some of the greatest toys ever, the Transformers, served some sort of influential role as well. Take Sweet Tooth, for instance. One moment you see his trademark ice-cream truck blowing the crap out of everything, and then he morphs seamlessly into the robotic formation above. More than meets the eye, for sure.





Rayman 2: Revolution

This month's preview courtesy of Ubi Soft

Rayman 2: Revolution is a platformer game developed by Ubi Soft and published by Ubi Soft. It is the second game in the Rayman series. The game is set in a world called the "World of the Ancients" and features a variety of enemies and bosses. Rayman is a small, blue, three-fingered creature who can jump, run, and shoot. He is accompanied by his friends, including a small, red, three-fingered creature named Globox. The game is known for its fast-paced action and its beautiful, colorful graphics.



Kengo: Master of Bushido

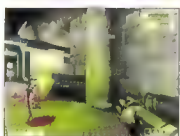
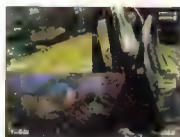
Kengo: Master of Bushido is a fighting game developed by Light Weight and published by Crave. It is the first game in the Kengo series. The game is set in a feudal Japanese setting and features a variety of enemies and bosses. Kengo is a small, blue, three-fingered creature who can jump, run, and shoot. He is accompanied by his friends, including a small, red, three-fingered creature named Globox. The game is known for its fast-paced action and its beautiful, colorful graphics.

Unreal Tournament

The Bots blast away on PS2

this month's preview courtesy of Infogrames

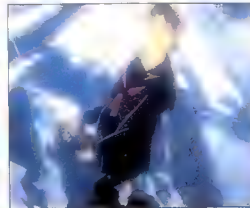
this month's preview courtesy of Epic Games

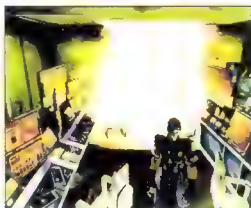
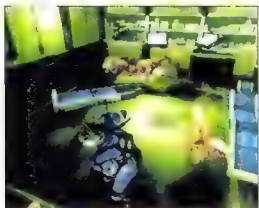




Sony CEI (株) 〒100-8555 東京都千代田区千代田 1-3-1

December The first of the month was a busy one for the company. The sales team had a successful meeting with the client, and the marketing team had a successful campaign. The company also had a successful meeting with the board of directors. The company is looking forward to a successful year ahead.

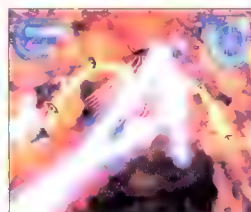
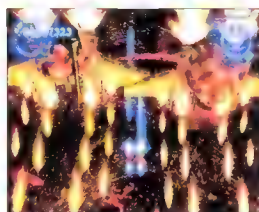
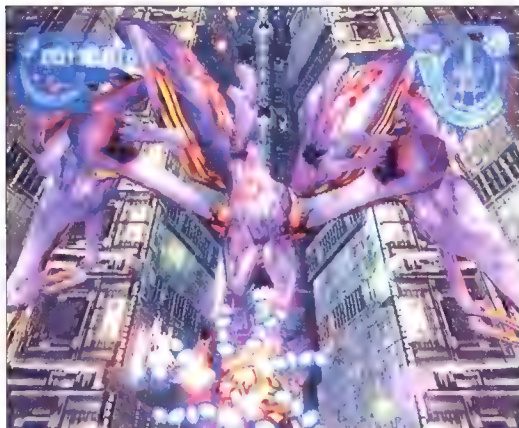
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Carrier Morphed

Jaleco

winter



Silpheed

Treasure

Working

Designs

this month

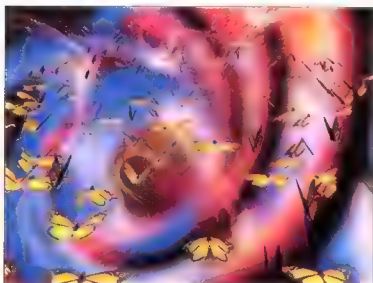


NUCLEAR DETONATOR



RC Revenge Pro

On **November 11**, EA's **RC Revenge Pro** is the first racing game to feature a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode.



ModernGroove

EA's **ModernGroove** is a new game that features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode.

Eden

Nope. No garden here

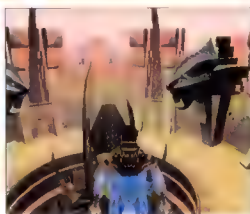
The **Eden** game is a new game that features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode. The game also features a "Pro" mode, which allows players to race against other players in a "Pro" mode.



Spooky Settings

Eden's action—described as a cross between *Quake*, *Resident Evil* and *Commandos* by developer **Core Design**—occurs miles below civilization, which has moved upward. If you've never thought the shopping malls, sports centers, power plants and theme parks we take for granted today could serve as "spooky environments," this spring 2001 release just might prove you wrong.





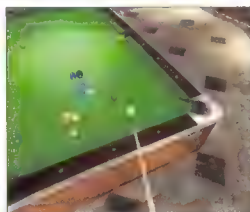
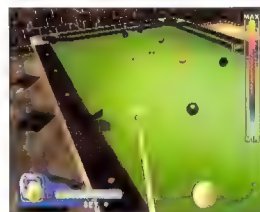
Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver 2

A sequel to the 1999 hit, *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver*, this game continues the story of Kain, a vampire who is the last of his kind. The game is developed by Crystal Dynamics and published by Square Enix.

Dynamics Crystal Dynamics is a game development studio based in San Francisco, California. They have developed several games for the PlayStation 2, including *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver* and *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver 2*.

Crystal Crystal Dynamics is a game development studio based in San Francisco, California. They have developed several games for the PlayStation 2, including *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver* and *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver 2*.

Spring Crystal Dynamics is a game development studio based in San Francisco, California. They have developed several games for the PlayStation 2, including *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver* and *Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver 2*.

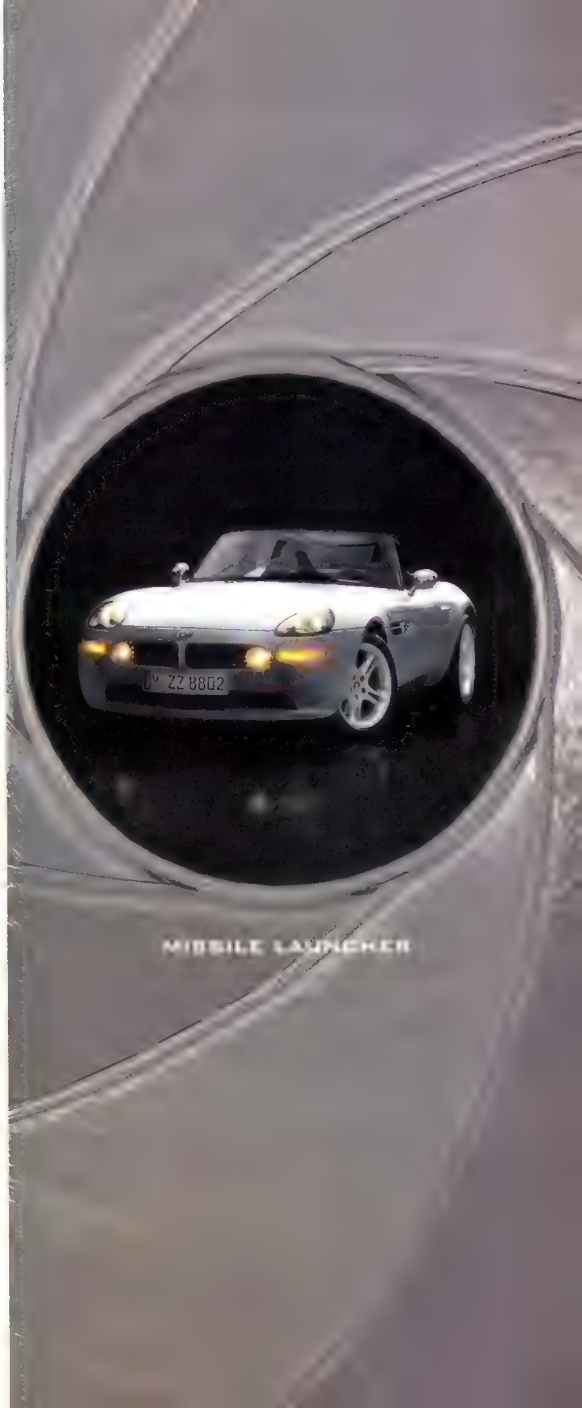


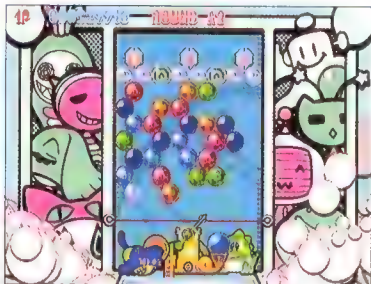
Real Pool

This month Infogrames Real Pool is a pool game developed by Infogrames. It is available on the PlayStation 2, Xbox, and PC. The game features realistic physics and a variety of pool tables and balls.

Infogrames Infogrames is a game development studio based in France. They have developed several games for the PlayStation 2, Xbox, and PC, including *Real Pool*.

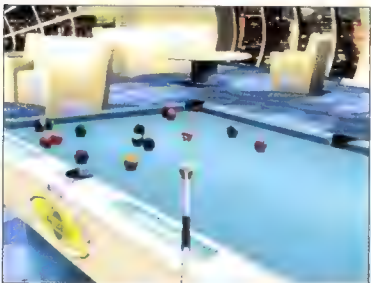
Pool Real Pool is a pool game developed by Infogrames. It is available on the PlayStation 2, Xbox, and PC. The game features realistic physics and a variety of pool tables and balls.





Super Bust-A-Move

It won't exactly wow you with the awe-inspiring graphics capable on the PS2, but **Acclaim's November** puzzle game should please fans of the popular Bust-A-Move series. While the core, color-matching gameplay remains, this **Taito** developed title includes several new factors, like conveyor belt walls that change your shot's trajectory (try bubbles that fit where larger ones can't, and captives within the bubbles who must be rescued—even a few more lovable characters).



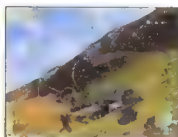
Q-Ball: Billiards Master

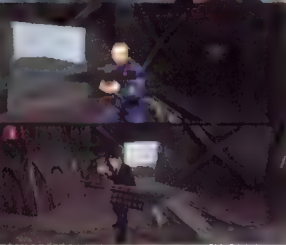
Formerly known as Cool Pool, **Take 2's** billiards title, due in **late November**, boasts realistic ball physics including friction, speed, collision and roll, as you work your way through the ranks against some of the toughest pool sharks in the world. Rack 'em up for different variations of nine-ball, eight-ball and other types of billiards, including bonus games like Bowliaros, Carrot and Random Six. You can even use the analog buttons on your Dual Shock 2 to control a shot's force.

Dropship

This is your PS2 showing off again

Some of you may remember our glowing remarks of **Sony's** Dropship in last month's issue. Well, this month we've got even more shots to demonstrate the game's amazing visuals. Dropship is a first-person shooter that allows you to generate insane amounts of terrain and allows you to navigate through the most dangerous of the shots, and look for plenty more updates or Dropship before it's summer release.





007
The World Is Not Enough

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TO LIVE LIKE BOND



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THROUGH BOND'S EYES

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007
Racing

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the speed and intensity of hockey. It's get in your head and stay there.

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Mobile Suit Gundam

Bandai's first PS2 release, due out **early next year**, will let fans of the *Gundam* anime saga, as seen through the eyes of the players, responsible for providing

the mechs with the most powerful weapons. The game is a



Surfing H30

Not on the shelves **this month**

From the makers of the *Rockstar* game *Surfing H30*, also known as *Surfing H30*, is a game that is not on the shelves

Sky Odyssey

Activation wings it

As one of the more unique PS2 titles, *Sky Odyssey* is a game that is not on the shelves

the game is a game that is not on the shelves

Activation the game is a game that is not on the shelves

the game is a game that is not on the shelves



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PS2000 Digital



Top Gear Dare Devil

Kemco takes its popular Nintendo franchise to the PS2 with the release of *Top Gear Drive*. **Civil Designers**, **Papaya Studios** (former Square employee), traveled to Rome, London, Tokyo and San Francisco to take snapshots and video for the game's 27 real-world levels. Though there are some handling issues at this point, so far the game looks incredible, we can't wait to check out the eight-player (you read right: eight!) competition with TGD's release in **November**.



ESPN Winter X Games: Snowboarding

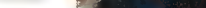
With an amazing snowboarding title like SSX out, you might wonder why you'd even think about Konami's entry to the genre. "These are two completely different games," says Konami's Craig Howard. "This isn't really a racing game, we focused on bringing you the authenticity of the sport. Find out just how realistic it is **this month**."

The Bouncer

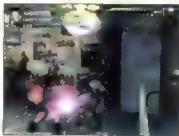
It's not just a movie anymore

...er to **Squaresoft** Japanese I...
...
...s, one of...
...re times when characters branch off and play through situations on th...
...character's quest might play out in a comical light. Al...
...more elements of...

In terms of manipulating the game characters and their skills, Director Takashi Bouncer will be closer to Tobal than any other game titles, especially in regard to the upper, middle and lower segmentation of attacks. The PS2 controller has li-



January

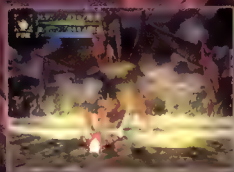


Equal Impact

Character designer Tetsuya Nomura discusses his new creations: "As I've looked at other fighting games, the hero characters appear quite intelligent, but the non-hero characters aren't as carefully designed—I couldn't find any non-hero characters that I'd want to emulate. Therefore, what I tried to do with this project is that regardless of the hero/non-hero distinction, each character appearing in the game should have an impact on the player."



YOU DEFEND YOUR FAMILY.
 YOU DEFEND YOUR HOMELAND.
 YOU DEFEND ALL THAT IS GOOD.
 BUT FIRST, YOU MUST DEFEND YOURSELF.



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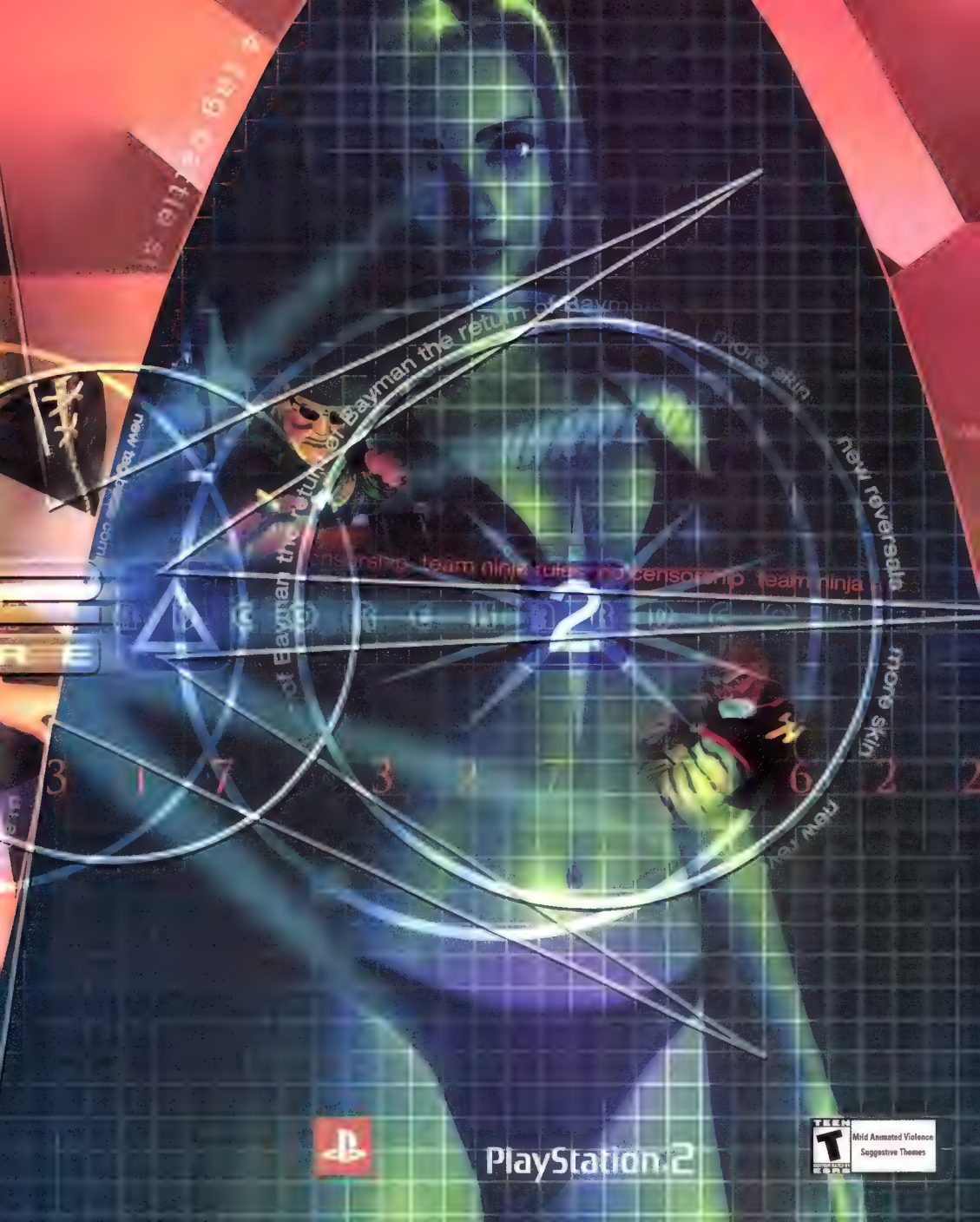
Meet the first best dragon slayer, a fearless hero who must conquer the most horrific of enemies. You will vanquish evil, save the heroine, and continue your heroic legend with each new generation. You will fight as a brave character in 3 action-packed storylines, and battle to prove your worth: your might, your Dragon Valor.



DOA2

HARD CORE

TECMO 100% GAMES



Bayman the Return of Bayman

new release

Bayman the Return of Bayman

more skin

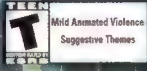
new release

more skin

new release

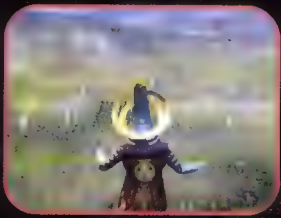


PlayStation 2





Introducing Kessen, the military conquest experience



Immerse yourself in the world of 17th century Japanese warfare



Preview its eye-popping screen shots and adrenaline-pumping battle sequences

Only one game has this kind of effect on people. Introducing Kessen, the military conquest experience so epic it could only happen on Playstation 2. Immerse yourself in the world of 17th century Japanese warfare, where you command huge armies through sweeping landscapes to wage history-deciding battles. To get a taste of this spectacular new DVD title, preview its eye-popping screen shots and adrenaline-pumping battle sequences on our website.

WWW.KESSEN.EA.COM

KESSEN
浪戦



PlayStation 2

ELECTRONIC ARTS

©2000 Koei Co., Ltd.



You can always tell who's been playing Kessen.



Previewed Inside

Army Men: Sarge's Heroes 2	134
C-12	130
Dance Dance Revolution	132
Disney's 102 Dalmatians	134
Disney's Jungle Book R'n'G	132
Fear Effect: Retro Helix	132
Freestyle Motocross	131
NCAA Final Four 2001	134
RC de GO	131
TechnoMage	134
Warriors of Might and Magic	131

Coming Soon

November

007 Racing	EA Games	Shooter
Arthur: Ready to Race	Mattel	Racing
Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker	Ubisoft	Action
Breath of Fire IV	Capcom	RPG
Bugs Bunny & Tex: Time Busters	Infogrames	Action
Casper: Friends Are...nd the World	Sound Source	Education
Championship Motocross 2001	THQ	Racing
Championship Surfer	Mattel	X Sports
Chicken Run	Endis	Adventure
Crash Bash	Sony CEA	Action
Disney's The Emperor's New Groove	Sony CEA	Action
Disney's The Lion King: Simba's Mighty Roar	Activision	Action
Dinos 2	Infogrames	Action
The Dukes of Hazard 2	Sony CEA	Racing
Evil Dead: Hail to the King	THQ	Adventure
Final Fantasy IX	Square EA	RPG
Gooly's Fun House	Mattel	Action
Hot Wheels Extreme XTR Racing	Mattel	Racing
In Cold Blood	Midway	Adventure
Looney Tunes Racing	Infogrames	Racing
Lunar 2: Eternal Blue	Working Designs	RPG
Mega Man X5	Capcom	Action
Motor Racer World Tour	Infogrames	Racing
The Mummy	Konami	Adventure
NASCAR Racers	Hoshiba	Racing
NCAA Final Four 2001	Sony CEA	Sports
NCAA March Madness 2001	EA Sports	Sports
Persona 2	Atlus	RPG
Power Spike Pro Beach Volleyball	Infogrames	Sports
Rainbow Six: Rogue Spear	Ubisoft	Adventure
Ready 2 Rumble: Round 2	Midway	Sports
Road to Glory: The Road to F1 Grand Prix	THQ	Action
Road to Glory: The Road to F1 Grand Prix	THQ	Action
Star Wars: Demolition	LucasArts	Action
Tomb Raider: Chronicles	Endis	Adventure
Woody Woodpecker Racing	Konami	Racing
WWF SmackDown! 2: Know Your Role	THQ	Wrestling
December		
Bade Arts	EA Games	Adventure
Deuce	Midway	Action
Disney's The Jungle Book Rhythm n' Groove	Ubisoft	Dancing
Cole and Gony: The Road to El Dorado	Ubisoft	Adventure
Marion Game	Take 2 Interactive	Adventure
Sabrina: The Teenage Witch	Beaumont	Action
Suzerain 2001	EA Sports	Racing
Future Releases		
Alone in the Dark: The New Nightmare	Infogrames	Adventure
Dance Dance Revolution	Konami	Dancing
Disney's Aladdin in Nasir's Revenge	Sony CEA	Action
Fear Effect: Retro Helix	Endis	Adventure
Gotham Racers	Ubisoft	Racing
Knockout: Racing	Hoshiba	Racing
Planet of the Apes	Fox Interactive	Adventure
Scary Dog	THQ	Action
The Simpsons: Wrestling	Fox Interactive	Wrestling
V.I.P.	Ubisoft	Adventure
World's Scariest Police Chases	Fox Interactive	Racing

C-12

A 3D Contra for the PS one

With absolute confidence, we can say that there are still plenty of high profile games in development for the original Sony platform next year, and one of the most proof that we've recently encountered is C-12 from Sony Cambridge Studios (best known for developing the MediEvil).

has a look at the game.

It's a 3D Contra for the PS one, and it's a game that's been in development for a long time.

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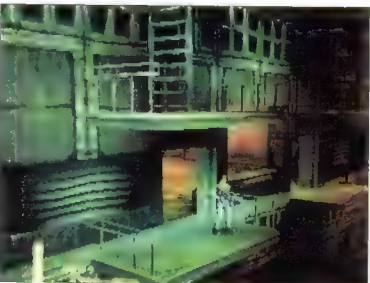
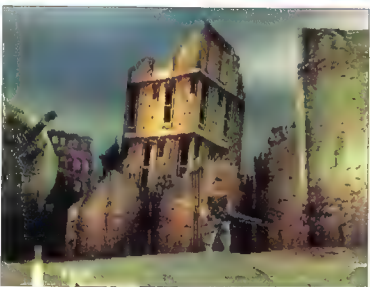
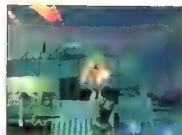
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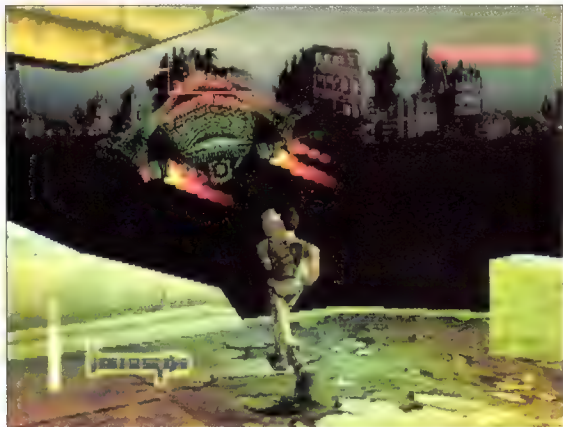


early next year



In-Game Action

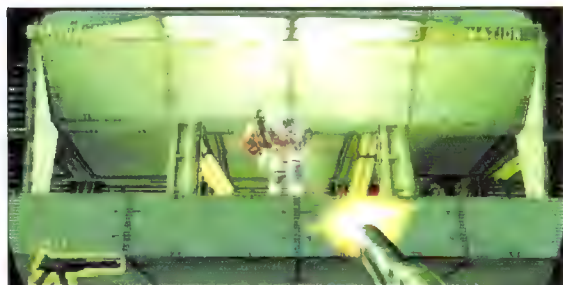
Unlike many PlayStation games released today, C-12 will deliver all of its story sequences by use of the in-game engine. "We really wanted to make a fully interactive action game and keep the action rolling constantly," says Andrew Kennedy. "Running all narrative devices through the game engine allows us absolute consistency of presentation throughout the game. We don't want the [average player] to think, 'So that's what the hero should really look like,' or, 'Heck, these guys have just made a terrible movie!'" With the powerful graphical engine behind C-12, this seems like a logical move. Kennedy also states that the game's visuals came about by "building on the MediEvil technologies and utilizing new texturing techniques."



RC de GO

by [Acclaim](#) and [Developer Taito](#)

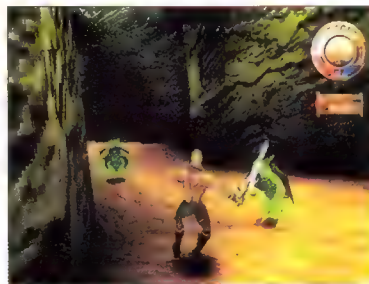
RC de GO is a racing game for the PlayStation 2. It features a variety of cars and tracks, and is set in a futuristic world. The game is available on the PlayStation 2 and is rated ESRB: E (Everyone).



Warriors of Might and Magic

3D0

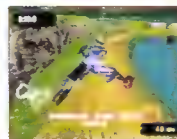
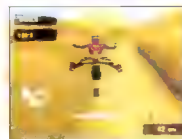
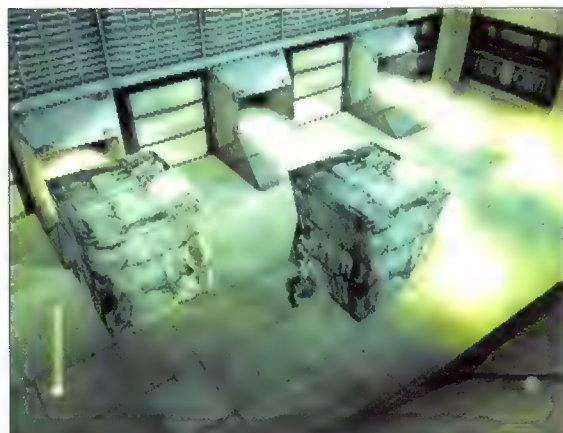
Warriors of Might and Magic is a role-playing game for the PlayStation 2. It features a variety of characters and weapons, and is set in a medieval world. The game is available on the PlayStation 2 and is rated ESRB: E (Everyone).



Freestyle Motocross: McGrath vs. Pastrana

by [Acclaim](#)

Freestyle Motocross: McGrath vs. Pastrana is a motocross game for the PlayStation 2. It features a variety of characters and weapons, and is set in a motocross world. The game is available on the PlayStation 2 and is rated ESRB: E (Everyone).





Dance Dance Revolution

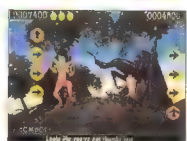
It's time to turn the tables on the dance game crowd. Konami's *Dance Dance Revolution* is coming to PS one this January, and it's looking to be a real contender.

The game features an astounding 100 songs, including hits from the likes of Madonna, Michael Jackson, and Prince. It's also got a ton of different dance styles to choose from, and a variety of difficulty levels. And, of course, there's the classic DDR gameplay of stepping on arrows to make the dancer perform the right moves. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that.



Disney's The Jungle Book Rhythm n' Groove

Ubi Soft's *The Jungle Book Rhythm n' Groove* is a fun, fast-paced rhythm game that brings the magic of Disney's *The Jungle Book* to the PS one. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that.



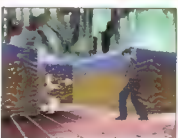
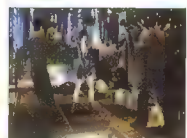
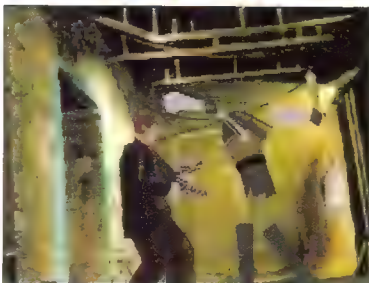
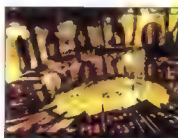
Fear Effect: Retro Helix

Girls in compromising situations

four discs, *Eidos Fear Effect* is a real challenge, and a real fun one at that.

The game features an astounding 100 songs, including hits from the likes of Madonna, Michael Jackson, and Prince. It's also got a ton of different dance styles to choose from, and a variety of difficulty levels. And, of course, there's the classic DDR gameplay of stepping on arrows to make the dancer perform the right moves. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that.

Kronos is a real challenge, and a real fun one at that. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that. It's a real challenge, and a real fun one at that.



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— Gamers' Republic

PlayStation 2



Animated Violence
Mild Language

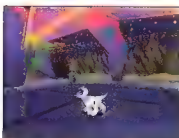


Our games go to 11!™

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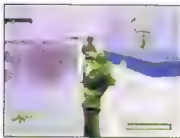
Disney's 102 Dalmations: Puppies to the Rescue

If you've been under the suspicion lately that Eidos has gone to the dogs, your proof arrives **this month**. Based on the upcoming sequel to the live-action version of *101 Dalmations*, this **Crystal Dynamics** developed 3D platformer features Domino and Oddball, the spotted 102nd dalmatian in their latest struggle against Cruella DeVil. Each pup can attack with a mighty bark or a powerful roll maneuver.



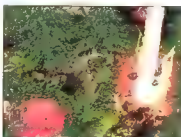
Army Men: Sarge's Heroes 2

It's hard to keep a good soldier down—especially if he's made of plastic. **3DO's** signature franchise returns to the PS one yet again, this time with an even wider and more diverse cast of characters. Players will be able to take on the personae of more characters than in the previous game. And the green-haired vixen Vikki in certain missions is no exception. And the game also includes more real-life settings, such as the airport. Watch for it **this month**.



TechnoMage

If you're hunting for a fantasy action/adventure, **Sunflower's** TechnoMage will proudly fit the bill. As of now, only a European release is planned, but if it does come stateside, you'll get the chance to play as Melvin, the TechnoMage himself, on a journey through his hometown of Gonthos. Evil forces pop up like toasted bread over eight different strange, surreal worlds. There are eight accompanying bosses whose design and behavior corresponds to the wildly visual fantasy areas you find them in.

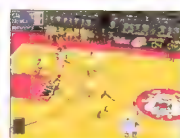


NCAA Final Four 2001

Where the sixth man makes all the difference

College basketball's annual postseason tournament, the NCAA Final Four, will bring a lot of excitement to the PS one this month. The game features 17 Division I teams ranging from Duke to Miami, with a roster of 100 players and 100 coaches. The game is a true simulation of the college basketball experience, with a focus on the "sixth man" who makes all the difference.

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The Mighty Quinn

When it comes to announcers, **989** is feeding us the dorm cafeteria leftovers. While icon **Dick Vitale** chats up EA Sports' college basketball game, the master of disaster, **Quinn Buckner**, is featured in **Final Four**. We're not trying to be mean, but **The Mighty Quinn** is the pro equivalent of commenting jackass **Bill Walton**. Maybe if he had a decent sidekick to derail him every once in a grand while, he wouldn't be so difficult to listen to.

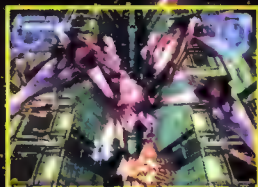
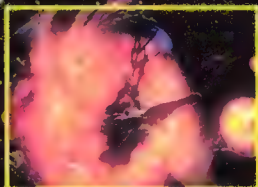
SILPHHEED

THE LOST PLANET

Believe in Your Pilots
Hope for the Best
Pray for a Savior

"A visual feast for PS2 owners...in shooter heaven."

— Gamers' Republic



Playstation 2



Animated Violence
Mild Language



Our games go to 11™

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LUNAR 2: ETERNAL BLUE

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THE MAKING OF AN

Crash Bandicoot was one of the early PlayStation success stories. Having sold millions of games over the past five years, he's been massaged to fit in a variety of different genres. Along the way he's been treated as a mascot, comic relief and spokesperson for the PlayStation without ever becoming the sole reason people buy the system in the way that Sonic or Mario have. Crash Bash could very well be the last Crash game we'll see on the PS one. Shame, huh? It's also the first game that hasn't been directly controlled by original developer Naughty Dog, and it's quite possibly the first step in a completely different style and philosophy for the series.

We've reviewed the game on page 166, so take a peek there if you like, and then come back here in a sec to read the rest of this feature. Go on, off you go. We'll wait... Back yet? No?

What's most interesting about Crash Bash, aside from the fact that it offers a major gameplay departure for the series, is that it's the center of some unusual political changes. The franchise is now controlled by Universal, who has always had a hand in his production, but who had previously defaulted to Sony and Naughty Dog for direction. This is all different now. Pop into a Universal Studios theme park and you'll see a guy in a Crash suit waving at the crowds. Crash is on the end of a new leash now. We spoke with Jason Rubin at Naughty Dog about the parent swap of his baby. "Crash has had many parents," he begins. "Both by birth and adoption Sony Computer Entertainment certainly cared well for Crash during the five games that it published. We think we did a good job from birth to four titles. Let's just say I don't think the outcome of this custody battle is

necessarily what is best for the child. To be honest, Crash is very much like a child leaving for college. We are sorry to see him go, and we wish him well in whatever he does. But, then again, with the kid finally out of our hair, we have our freedom back!" Freedom to do what, though? It's no secret that Naughty Dog is working on an entirely new franchise series for Sony, but no matter how hard we pushed, Rubin wouldn't tell us. What he would say was that "developing for the PlayStation 2 is certainly a bigger challenge than other systems have been before. But the rewards are that much greater. Every week we learn something new, and the learning experience will continue for the next generation. Some have said that the difficulty of developing for the system will be a detriment. I don't believe that to be true. The best teams make the best games on whatever system has the best chance of delivering the installed base. Right now, the PlayStation 2 seems to have the best chance to deliver that audience. That is why we are working exclusively on it."

cont. on page 144

THE MANY GAMES OF CRASH BASH

The Adventure game mode in Crash Bash is divided into a series of "hubs" from which you access each of the minigames. Just so you know what to expect, we worked our way through the game to check out each and every one of them, including the "secret" levels you get access to once you've beaten the final boss.



SKY BALLS

Four-player Pong while floating in the air.



MELT PANIC

Barge each other off the iceberg as the edges melt away.



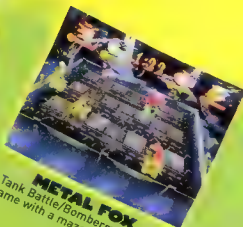
EL POGO LOCO

Pogo sticks. Squares. Colors. You get the idea.



SNOW BASH

Throw boxes and TNT at each other in the snow.



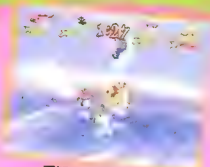
METAL FOX

Tank Battle/Bomberman-style game with a maze that morphs.



BEACH BALL

Bounce the balls, Pong-style but now with added features.



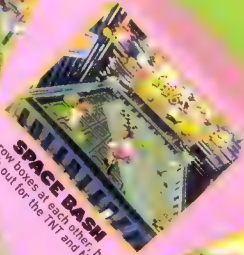
TILT PANIC

Barge your opponents off the iceberg while balancing as it tilts.



POGO-A-COCO

Pogo on the squares and paint boxes Dix-style.



SPACE BASH

Throw boxes at each other but watch out for the TNT and Nitro.



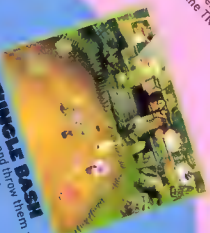
POLAR PANIC

Barge your opponents off the iceberg with your polar bear.



CRASH BALL

Bounce the balls, Pong-style. Easy.



JUNGLE BASH

Pick up boxes and throw them at each other.



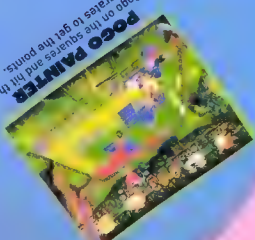
DESERT FOX

Imagine a slow-motion Bomberman Battle and a Bomberman.



PAPU PUMMEL

Pick up boxes and throw them at the boss.



POGO PAINTER

Pogo on the squares and fill the crates to get the points.



TERMINATOR

The boss for the second hub has some pretty big guns.



MANIC PANIC

Barge each other off... oh, you get the idea.



SWAMP FOX

Shoot each other from swamp mobiles Tank Battle-style.



POGO PADLOCK

More complex pogo painting. Don't jump on your own color.



DRAIN DAMAGE

Boxes. Opponents. Throwing things at each other.



DANTE'S DASH

Another very short racing game. With weapons.



KEG KABOOM

Pick up the kegs and leave gunpowder trails to blow stuff up.



MALLET MASH

Just like you expect, dash things with mallets.



SPLASH DASH

Race around without getting pushed off.



DRAGON DROP

A little tag a Sprig. Battle on the backs of dragons.



JUNGLE FOX

Blast each other while trundling around a jungle locale.



OXIDE RIDE

3D chase-and-destroy boss battle. The final boss of the game.



RING DING

Jump to pop the balloons of your own color.



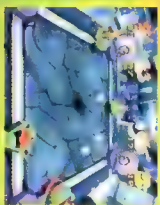
TOXIC DASH

Super Sprint racing action, with leeky green slime monsters.



POT DASH

Use super sprint on a tiny duct.



M. BAULISM

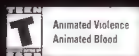
Another four-player Pong thing, but with magnets and forcefields.

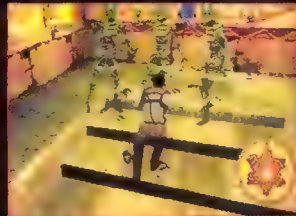
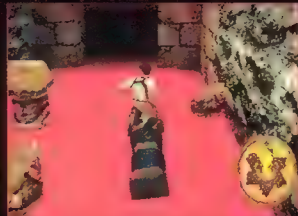
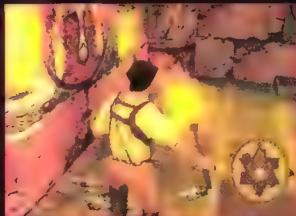




HE CAN SPEW SWARMS OF
FROM YOUR BONES. YOU, HOWEVER,

Think you're having a bad day? Try waking up from a 3000 year nap to find meddling humans pillaging your crypt. Resurrecting the hit movie, *The Mummy* brings the horror of death back to life. And as the hero, it's your duty to fight any scarabs, spirits and undead you meet while exploring the uncharted tombs of the pyramid. Sure, you'll be loaded with weapons and special moves. But beware. After sleeping that long, it just might be his morning breath that kills you.





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"I don't want to talk about our next character yet," he explains, almost apologetically, "but I can answer your questions about working on a new franchise in general terms. The PlayStation was restricted by many factors. We had a limited number of polygons, and we had limited resolution (100,000 polygons/second at a resolution of 512 x 240 pixels). We also had very limited processor power to deal with, and a limited palette. The PlayStation 2, on the other hand, has a high enough resolution to polygon count ratio (10,000,000 polygons/second at a resolution of 640 x 480 pixels) that we don't feel restricted by the hardware. The PlayStation 2 has three times the resolution, but 100 times the polygon power. We also have ample processor muscle and a full-color palette. It is possible, therefore, to follow our creative urges without worrying about whether or not the hardware can handle it. We are now pure designers and not restricted by the technology of the day." And with that, our conversation about the new Naughty Dog game was pretty much over. Still, after the turbulent developer feelings toward the system

"WE ARE NOW PURE DESIGNERS AND NOT RESTRICTED BY THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE DAY." JASON RUBIN

in recent months, it's great to see that teams are shaking off the shackles of technology in order to simply realize a vision.

Back to the immediate future, though—you may have read recently that the new Universal deal means that Crash and stablemate Spyro will no longer be PlayStation-exclusive characters. Universal has signed a deal with partner Konami to produce future games for PlayStation 2 as well as for Xbox, and possibly GameCube or Dreamcast. Is this the end of an era? It may well be, but there can be no

denying that Crash's history exemplifies that a true pop-culture icon can be designed and manipulated to the point that he is accepted in the mainstream very quickly. Crash will forever sit alongside Mario, Sonic and even Mickey Mouse and Pikachu as a major franchise character. Was he designed to be a mascot, though? Many people think he was manufactured in the same fashion as every other year's latest boy-band. Rubin explains how it all began: "Although we set out to create the 'mascot' for the PlayStation, we never really thought we had a
cont. on page 146



CREEPY CRASH

This is what our hero looked like originally. Creepy, isn't he? He's basically the same design, but some of his more bizarre characteristics, like those oh-so-attractive cross-eyes, have been straightened out. Crash is now considerably more "cool," and you'll notice that his mohawk and eyebrows have been overhauled a little, too. Still, he doesn't look as creepy as that Crash suit in the photo over here on the right, does he? Sheesh.

CRASH OVERSEAS TROUBLE

The Crash series of games has sold millions of units in the United States and is accepted as one of the most successful franchises of all time. What's even more surprising, though, is the way that he has become an international franchise character. He is the only Western-created character in a Western-created game to sell more than a million copies in Japan. He's also topped the charts in just about every country he's been released in throughout Europe.



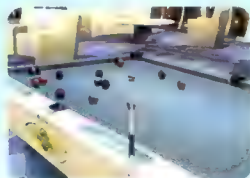
PlayStation.2

Q-Ball

BILLIARDS MASTER



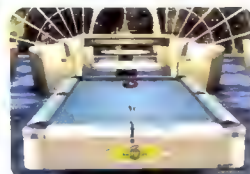
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chance of achieving it. After all, when we started with Crash Bandicoot, we were a small team of eight people and one external producer, Mark Cerny. How were we to create such a thing? It wasn't until we reached Alpha [a stage of development where the game is basically pieced together and playable—Ed.] that we secured Sony as the publisher," he smiles. "From that point on, in their hands, things started rolling. Fortunately, we were able to keep up with the schedule—and maintain quality—throughout the four titles that Naughty Dog had created. Although Crash never became an official mascot, he certainly represented the system in many magazine articles and in the minds of a lot of gamers. We are very proud of that.

"Sony has officially stated that Crash is not the mascot of the PlayStation many times," Rubin

to show emotion in each and every frame of animation. This emotion led to an attachment with Crash, which many gamers took from Crash game to Crash game through the entire series. Second, we did create some good games judging both by magazine reviews and by consumer feedback. If Crash 2 had failed to deliver both the Crash character and the Crash quality, then we would never have sold as many copies as we did, and certainly, most of the audience wouldn't have come back for Crash: WARPED."

Since WARPED was released, Crash has not really returned to his original and most successful gameplay formula. Last year, we saw the kart-racing fun of CTR [which scored a deserved five out of five in *OPM*] and now the "party fun" of Crash Bash. External producer on the project, Mark Cerny, who has been with the franchise

"LET'S JUST SAY I DON'T THINK THE OUTCOME OF THIS CUSTODY BATTLE IS NECESSARILY WHAT IS BEST FOR THE CHILD."

JASON RUBIN

continues. "The PlayStation is a gaming system for many types of gamers, and Sony didn't want Crash to represent what a gamer could expect to find in the library. If you were trying to alert a sports fanatic to the great sports titles available on the PlayStation, then having a fuzzy orange mascot doesn't exactly serve. Unlike Nintendo, Sony didn't want to restrict its target audience to children, so again, Crash didn't make sense as a mascot. I think that it was better for Naughty Dog—and better for Crash—that we didn't have mascot pressure."

The series has survived through many iterations and has become one of the biggest-selling franchises of all time in America. Why does he work? Most people don't even know what a bandicoot is. "I think that Crash's success can be attributed to two factors," Rubin explains. "First, the character is compelling. Although you may not have realized it, Crash was the first character

since day one, explains: "It is a radical departure from traditional Crash gameplay," he begins. "We wanted to really capture and build upon the aspects of multiplayer gaming while still maintaining the flavor and visual fun of the Crash universe," he says, with a somewhat corporate tone. "To that end, the game is centered around seven broad categories of multiplayer action games, which range from jousting on the backs of polar bears to bouncing around on pogo sticks capturing territory." Ah, polar bears and pogo sticks. That's more like it.

"Players can choose to play in a multiplayer Battle mode or in a one- or two-player Adventure mode," he explains. "The Adventure mode takes the player or players through 22 arenas and four Boss arenas on their way to prove whether Good or Evil is stronger. The Battle mode is an all-out slugfest where players choose an arena and then match skills and smack-talk as they try

cont. on page 148

"THE ANIMATION HAS NEVER BEEN BIGGER!"

Since becoming the pop culture sensation that he is, Crash has appeared in all kinds of places hawking both his own wares and those of others. We tracked down some of his more stellar moments.



The Pizza Hut commercials. There were a few of these, and each tied in with the fact that Sony had hooked up with the pie-chain to give away free demo CDs. The "wacky" megaphone rantings of Crash became something of a pop-culture phenomenon.



This was so embarrassing it made us cringe. Donnie introduced him as "Crash Bandicoot!" and then went on to wax lyrical about the quality of the game. Apparently, the animation has never been bigger." Whatever that means. If that wasn't enough, they made Crash dance, too. Eugh.



The opening moments of an episode of *Felicity* exposed the ongoing battle between boy and girl, as the female of the species dismissed the playing of video games as being childish. Having the male need to explain the intricacies of the gameplay didn't really help matters.

MISS ME OF BANDICOOT



A quick reminder of Crash as he's appeared each year. Nice flippers there.

PlayStation 2

UNLEASH YOUR INNER ROAD RAGE



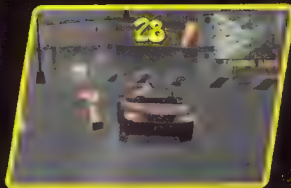
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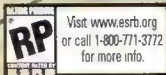


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to claim the trophy. In the Adventure mode, we have preserved the traditional Crash structure of Warp Rooms; advanced challenges that are rewarded with Gems, Crystals and Relics; and a secret Warp Room with six extra arenas in it. As a general rule, all of these games are four-player games, so computer AI characters fill in if there aren't four human players." [See diagram on page 140 to see all the games.]

As a simple, bright and colorful party game, it could be argued that Crash is becoming more and more of a kid's franchise character than ever

point. *Schindler's List* had a lot of violence as well, and that movie did have a point, and it did have lessons to teach. *Schindler's List* used violence for the general good; we were just kids trying to be gross," he laughs. "The point is, I don't think that violence in media is always bad, but I don't think it is always good either. Do I think games should tackle adult issues the way movies do? Sure, if the developer has something to say. Do games need to have adult themes for the industry to be lifted to a point where they are not dismissed? No, I don't think they do. They just

"SCHINDLER'S LIST USED VIOLENCE FOR THE GENERAL GOOD. WE WERE JUST KIDS TRYING TO BE GROSS."

JASON RUBIN

before. While this isn't necessarily a bad thing, in the past he's enjoyed a very broad appeal. Many are arguing that the PS one will become a "kid PlayStation." Has Crash Bash aimed lower this time? "Not at all," Cerny says defensively. "Crash as a series has been very broad in its age appeal, and in the particular case of Crash Bash we've managed to broaden the appeal a bit further, due to the multiplayer aspects. I'm sure that quite a lot of high school and college players who purchased Multiplats for sports games will love the Battle Mode gameplay. There are no age limits to head-to-head fun!" Hmm. No. As long as it is actually fun. Just because something is multiplayer doesn't automatically make it an enjoyable experience for everyone.

Now that Rubin and Naughty Dog have "sent the kid off to college," are they going to continue aiming at this kid-friendly kind of thing? Has five years with brightly colored characters made them crave more adult themes? "Naughty Dog has not done a violent game since we created Crash," Rubin explains. "In a previous life, Andy [Gavin] and I developed Way of the Warrior, which was quite violent. Looking back, I don't think that we were tackling any adult issues. Sure, there were buckets of blood, and a good deal of death and dismemberment, but we didn't really have a

have to be better and attract a larger number of people, whether they are violent or not. Thrill Kill would more likely have destroyed the industry than 'lifted' it. Furthermore, we need to stop marketing and selling violent games to kids. Everyone reacted in shock when Wal-Mart and Kmart instituted policies to card kids at the register if they were buying violent media. If the companies that claimed that the violent games they were selling were only marketed and sold to adults weren't lying, then there wouldn't have been any reason to panic. But the truth is, these companies have made a good deal of money by selling questionable product to kids who are not mature enough to parse what they're watching."

Hopefully, we'll be able to bring you news of the next Naughty Dog game over the next few months. In the meantime, Crash Bash should be in stores by the time you read this. Is this going to be the Bandicoot's final party? No. We understand that Konami's Crash efforts will be revealed at some point next year, and that a very talented team has been put in charge of development. The PS2 game will be different from the game seen on Xbox [currently dubbed Crash Bandicoot XI], so who knows? Maybe Rubin and Cerny could be brought in on an advisory role on those games, too.



CRASH BASH

It's tinsel time again. The local malls are draped in holiday junk, horrid jingles are everywhere, pigs have nightmares about honey glaze, and another Crash title is heading to stores! But Naughty Dog is not the developer. First we find out Santa is fake and now this! Though none of the Dogs have spent much time with Crash Bash, it looks like co-developers Eurocom and Cerny Games have done an admirable job. Your parents stuffed stockings in lieu of Saint Nick. Could it be that Crash can survive without Naughty Dog?

Now and then I am called "The Father of Crash Bandicoot," but this is not fair. Crash was created by a handful of Naughty Dogs and two Hollywood character designers, Charles Zembillas and Joe Pearson. Crash's growth and evolution have been driven by everyone who has worked on the products, including not only the Naughty Dogs, but also Mark Cerny, who has been working with us on the Crash products since the very beginning, and our producers from Sony, who have given us endless ideas and support, even stepping in to design a level from time to time. And of course, Sony's marketing and PR worldwide, the real secret behind Crash's success, if there is one. We had no idea that Crash would be huge. Naughty Dog set out to create the Mario of the PlayStation, and though that never officially happened, we succeeded well beyond our expectation. The series has sold over 20 million units worldwide, and last I checked, three of the top five-selling titles in the U.S. were Crash games. Crash Bandicoot:

CRASH BASH: THE "FAT ELVIS" PERIOD

WARPED is the only foreign created and developed title to sell over 1 million units in Japan in the history of video games. It has been quite a ride! Crash Bash was the right thing for Crash to do. If I were Crash's agent, I would have said, "Buddy, this thing was made for you." Crash 3 was a stitch from being an action/puzzle game called Crash Bandicoot: Cortex's Mad Factory [no relation to Crash Bash]. But we had a few more platform elements to explore. After Crash 3, we knew we wanted to do something multiplayer, but we were addicted to those darn kart games. Crash Team Racing fed the addiction. And then the PlayStation 2 came along, and Naughty Dog said a fond good-bye to Crash Bandicoot. We wanted to do something that would push the new hardware, and Crash was...well Crash was just sooooo PS one.

But the PlayStation still has life in it. Gamers wanted another Crash game, Sony wanted another Crash game, Mark Cerny wanted another Crash game, and Naughty Dog donated its entire art library toward another Crash game. Eurocom stepped up to the plate, Crash Bash was created, and from the looks of it, we all have a home run on the PlayStation for the holiday season.

So now what? Who knows? We now find out about Crash the same way gamers do: through press releases. And from what we have been reading, future Crash titles are going to be produced by Universal Interactive Studios, creators of Xena and Running Wild, and they will be coming to the Xbox and PS2 without Naughty Dog, without Mark Cerny, and without Sony. Could this be the beginning of Crash's "Fat Elvis" period? Only time will tell.

TAWNA VS. COCO

So what happened to Crash's hot girl-friend after the first game? Where did she go? Was she too saucy? We never really found out why she was getting herself into so much trouble during the first game anyway, and before we had a chance to ask, she was gone. The buxom blonde was replaced by Crash's goodie-goodie sister Coco with her big cute eyes, conservative wardrobe and geeky demeanor. What happened? Inquiring minds want to know.



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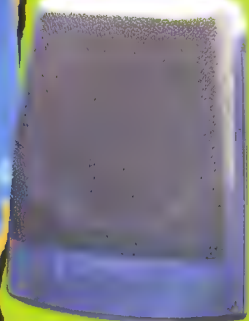
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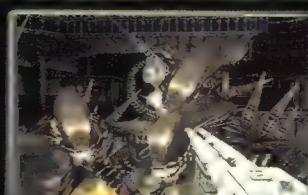
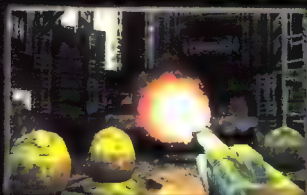
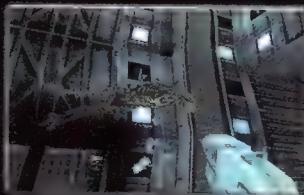
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THE DARK.

BE AFRAID OF
WHAT'S IN IT.

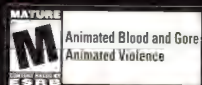
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Armored Core 2	156	Danger Girl	170
Dead or Alive 2: Hardcore	156	Destruction Derby Raw	170
ESPN InTV! Track & Field	157	Donald Duck: Go!n' Quackers	170
Evergreen	157	F1 Racing Championship	171
FIFA 2001		Family Feud	171
Major League Soccer	158	FIFA 2001	
Gradius III and IV	160	Major League Soccer	171
Gundam Blaze	160	Final Fantasy IX	168
Kessen	160	Galaga: Destination Earth	172
Midnight Club	161	The Grinch	172
Moto GP	161	Jeopardy! 2	172
Orphen	162	Knockout Kings	173
Silent Scope	162	The Land Before Time	173
Smuggler's Run	162	The Little Mermaid	173
Street Fighter EX 3	164	Looney Tunes Racing	173
Summer	164	Medal of Honor	
Tekken Tag Tournament	156	Underground	170
TimeSplitters	163	Mega Man Legends 2	174
Wild Wild Racing	164	Mike Tyson Boxing	174
Army Men Air Attack 2	166	MTV Sports: Pure Ride	175
Army Men: World War		MTV Sports: Skateboarding	
Land, Sea, Air	166	featuring Andy MacDonald	174
ATV: Quad Power Racing	167	Muppet Monster Adventure	176
Batman Beyond:		Muppet Race Mania	176
Return of the Joker	167	NBA Live 2001	174
Breakout	161	NBA ShootOut 2001	177
Buzz Lightyear of		Spyro: Year of the Dragon	177
Star Command	161	Wheel of Fortune 2	178
Cool Boarders 2001	169	World Destruction League:	
Crash Bash	168	Thunder Trucks	178

THE FINAL SCORE

We rate games on a five-point scale. So, .5 is terrible, 2.5 is average and 5 is superb. Get it?

I think we're talking about integrity here

compelled to really get down to the nitty-gritty and discuss some of the inner workings of the games industry with you all. Often it's just boring crap that we have to deal with, and ultimately it doesn't affect you, as I'm sure you all re-interested in getting your hands on the latest games. I hope that you feel you can rely on us to tell you what's good and what's bad. That's what we do. It's our job. At the end of the day, I'd like you to see this magazine as a trusted friend—a trusted friend who's lucky enough to be able to check out the latest games before anyone else. So we go over to see the stuff first, we can tell you which games are worth buying, and which ones are worth avoiding. And... *author*

Recently though, we've been drawn into a number of situations where we've really had to fight the good fight on your behalf. I just want to share this with you in a broad sense to help illustrate the actions of some organizations who don't necessarily have your best interests at heart. I won't name names here, but these are people who are less than forthcoming as consumers, and who think that you'll like whatever they tell you to

Now means that we get to see one hell of a lot of games each year. There have been literally hundreds in the last 12 months, and things will no doubt continue as we move forward. With that said, there are a few different ways the game is coming. Among this huge annual tidal wave of product there are some sparkling gems, some truly spectacular examples of mediocrity and some whose disc isn't even 1/2 the size of a CD-ROM. I'll be sure to highlight the ones I want to be used for a game of Frisbee. Hopefully you feel that way, too. I'll be sure to tell you, honestly, what we love about each game we see. Sometimes you'll disagree—sometimes we disagree with each other, too.

Unfortunately our policy of occasionally brutal honesty has got us into 'trouble' lately. We know that when you see a game that sucks, you're going to dismiss it and move onto something better. We also know that when we hammer something for ridiculous problems, you'll take our comments on board, but also wander down to your favourite store and check the game out for yourself, even if it's just to poke fun at it and laugh like drunks. At the end of the day, we want to save you money—and we're pretty

However, in a variety of efforts to limit us from winning you the pool, a growing number of companies are choosing to give very high and rightly with us. I've been at the receiving end of some splendidly righteous ranting from high-ranking muckety mucks at softco who have threatened to withhold product from us, withhold advertising space and from the magazine, and browbeat me on what they think the magazine's role is. I have been told, "I'm a face and through e-mail, that our job is not to tell our readers what to buy and what not to buy. They say that we accept their advertising dollars we have a duty to be gentle with their products. No. That's not the way it works. Just as we don't cut Sony any slack because our official license [and check out our Crash Bash review] if you don't believe us, we don't cut anyone else any slack because of an advertisement. If we think a game sucks, by golly we'll say so. That doesn't mean we can't have anything against the company concerned, we just have a problem with games that suck. If you can wander up to a bad guy in a game, empty the clip of your gun, his place at point blank range and nothing happen."

because the graphics are so bad—that's another problem if you just aren't having any fun with the system. That's a problem, too. Whether it's a bad game or a bad system, if the publisher or developer refuses to send us a game for review because of some dumb anti-piracy notion or whatever, we'll go on and buy it the day it comes out and review it anyway, and if our review is late, we'll apologize to those of you who didn't advance. On the flip side, if we see a game that deserves to have a bad song about it, we'll find somebody to get the sing-along going and crank out the Fat Army. It's hard for her to play at the moment.

Like you, we love great games. We don't care who makes them, we just wish they could all be great. Unfortunately games are like anything else. Some are great, and some are so awful you feel embarrassed to own them. Hopefully you'll trust our judgement and save your time (if not, well, don't say we didn't warn you).

John Davison
Editor in Chief

MEET THE CRITICS



... thing) jetting backward
... in San Francisco and
... doesn't know what it me it is.
He's changed his appearance
yet again (going blond) and is
earning 'woof' (dog) Tight

FAVORITE GENRES: Racing
Action
CURRENT FAVORITES: SSX
TimeSplitters, TimeSplitters 2
CAN'T WAIT FOR: GT2



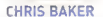
Joe forgave Gary for all his
gressions. Come to think of it,
though those tears may have
been more a result of the
immense section this month

FAVORITE GENRES: Adventure, RPG, Puzzle, Army Men
CURRENT FAVORITES: Midnight Club, Smuggler's Run, Spyro 3
CAN'T WAIT FOR: Dark Cloud



the office. The effect, though, is more MC Hammer than ferocious Black Mage.

FAVORITE GENRES: RPG
Adventure, Action
CURRENT FAVORITES: Final
Fantasy IX, TimeSplitters, Spyro 3
CAN'T WAIT FOR: Final Fantasy X
FFXI, FF XIII, FFXI, FFXIII



older every time he goes out. By the time you read this, he's probably an octogenarian.

FAVORITE GENRES: Action RPG, Adventure, Strategy, Sports
CURRENT FAVORITES: Muppet Race Mania, TimeSplitters, Kessen
CAN'T WAIT FOR: Star Wars: Starfighter, Dance Dance Revolution



play for the St. Louis Blues. Already, Todd's talking Cup. Sadly, no one's listening.

FAVORITE GENRES: Sports
Extreme Sports
CURRENT FAVORITES: THPS2,
FIFA PS2, Madden PS2
CAN'T WAIT FOR: Alone in the
Dark, St. Louis Blues Stanley Cup



shopping spree in the me
of gaming) There go his par
for getting a new car

FAVORITE GENRES: Action, Fighting
CURRENT FAVORITES: Hardcore, Gungnion Bta.
CAN'T WAIT FOR: MGS2 Meda. of M



Armored Core 2

Armored Core 2**Developer** Ageia**Web Site** www.ageia.com

The Armored Core series has always kept a select, dedicated audience of gamers who are willing to accept its stiff control mechanics and can really get into the mech gameplay. Unfortunately I'm not one of them. But I like any PS2 game that comes into the office, when Armored Core 2 arrived for review I got really excited and thought to myself, "Wow, this is cool—It's Armored Core on the PS2." Then I played the game and thought to myself, "Wow, this isn't cool—it's Armored Core on the PS2!"

You see, although this game has received a major graphical polish thanks to the PS2, it's still the same thing that we've seen before. If you're one of those people who can get past the controls and other minor quirks the Armored Core games present, you'll love this one. If not, save your time and don't bother reading the rest of this review.

If there's one thing Armored Core 2 really has going for it, it's stellar graphics. Most everything looks really shiny and high-res, and the water and explosion effects are nice. The mechs themselves look very cool too. Heck, even the menus are spiffy. Along with the graphics, AC2 features a pretty solid soundtrack. And one of the best parts of the Armored Core series is always the ability to build and customize your mechs.

But again, where the game really falters is in the area of control. Everything feels very stiff and slow. And the fact that there is no analog support is crazy—it just feels wrong to have to control your mech with the digital pad. And having to look up and

down with the shoulder buttons is painful. Yes, perhaps it may emulate the difficulty you'd face in controlling a real-life mech—but if there were such things as real-life mechs—but if results in irritating gameplay. So I don't care for it. Another irritation is that you'll often get bombarded with attacks from enemies and have little chance of moving out of the way. To me, the whole thing just feels very unbalanced at times.

But like I said earlier on, if you are the type of person who can let that sort of stuff slide, Armored Core 2 could be a really good game to get into. I'll admit, once I got used to the controls, I did enjoy myself a bit.

Final Score ●●●
Sam Kennedy



Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 64 KB

Dead or Alive 2: Hardcore**Publisher** Tecmo**Developer** Team Ninja**Web Site** www.tecmo.com

Dead or Alive 2: Hardcore is yet another PS2 game that has been given a significant upgrade for the U.S. market, making this already incredible fighter that much more spectacular. New characters, new levels, new graphics, new gameplay additions—you name it. Tecmo has bedded this baby up. The result is one of the best fighting games ever made. And yes, even if you own the Dreamcast or import PS2 versions you're going to have to buy this one too. It's that good.

DOA2: Hardcore's visuals are arguably the finest you've ever seen in a fighting game. Many of the environments are simply jaw-dropping, filled with highly detailed backdrops



Dead or Alive



Dead or Alive

and moving elements. I also must mention the multiplatform lighting that DOA2 offers. Knock your opponent off the roof of a building and you'll continue the fight down in the streets. It's the kind of thing you always wanted to see in a fighting game, and now you can. The character art is a sight to behold, their motions are very smooth. Overall, DOA2 is simply a marvel to look at. The only thing that would have really put it over the top is Team Ninja could have focused in the aliasing of floors and some of the backgrounds.

Gameplay-wise, DOA2: Hardcore is top-notch. Controlling your characters' moves is flawless, and the game becomes seriously involving after you lock down combos and spend time studying the patterns of your opponents. One thing Team Ninja added for the Hardcore version is the ability for characters to perform tag moves with any of the other characters—a big plus.

Something that really stands out about Hardcore is that once you're in the game, there are no load times to wait for. Matches segue right into each other, leaving you without those painful, brain-loading screens found in most fighters. I don't know how Team Ninja does it, but it's awesome.

And as for the DOA2: Hardcore, it's excellent. There are tons of modes to play, around with and things to unlock. Whether you like this over Tekken Tag Tournament is based on fighting preferences. Personally, though, I'll be keeping DOA2 running in my PS2.

Final Score ●●●●●
Sam Kennedy



Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 88 KB



Tekken Tag Tournament

It's Tekken, only moreso

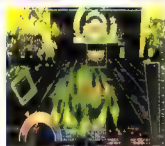
Publisher Namco**Developer** Namco**Web Site** www.namco.com

When the Japanese version of Tekken Tag Tournament came out much earlier this year, I got what I thought was an underserved bad rap. Hardcore gamers bemoaned the fact that it didn't offer anything new or different and that its gameplay was too much like Tekken 3. OK. Maybe it hasn't advanced much, but let's face it: Tekken 3 was never a bad game was it? It scored a whopping five out of five when we reviewed it again, and it's been a benchmark game ever

since. I'm going to stick my neck out here and just be completely honest: Love Tekken Tag. It may not have the newly trendy 3D movement like DoA2 or Soul Calibur, but it's a good, solid fighting game and the graphics are absolutely gorgeous.

Something that will surprise many of you who keep an eye on such things is that the U.S. release of TTT is actually somewhat different from the Japanese game. While the gameplay mechanics, characters and everything else are identical, the graphics have been given an overhaul and the result is a complete elimination of those

Tekken Bowl



Jack sees things differently from other players—on account of his cyborgitude.

As with the previous games in the series, if you persevere and try to open everything up, you are rewarded with goodies like ending movies and bonus games. Tekken Bowl is a fully fledged bowling game that is played "Tag" style just like the rest of the TTT. Choose your team and jab the buttons to stop the moving power bars to affect your aim and throwing power. Feeling mean? Hurl your ball into the crowd instead and watch them fall.



...red and exaggerated
...agrees that lots of people had their
knickers in a twist about a few
...
...
...
...
honest but hey, who am I to com-
plain? The graphics do look silky-
smooth and lovely and that
...
...be a good thing

[illegible]

downfall, the king, who had been rewarded £40,000 a year,


[illegible]

Final Score ●●●●●
John Davison

Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 346 KB



ESPN International
Track & Field

Publisher : **Developer** : 
Web Site : www.korap.com

[illegible]

Recommender: If you don't have a Multi-
tap and some able-fingered friends,
this game has a short shelf life

[illegible]

there's only about an hour of gameplay for a group to invest in



Evergrace

Evergrace

Publisher	As
Developer	
Web Site	

...the ...

It has its moments of ingenuity

[illegible]

...at its core **Evergrace** is a fairly unimaginative action-RPG

Orphen arriving at launch **most**
action-RPG devotees won't have
much reason to pick up **Evergrace**

Final Score ● ●
Joe Rybicki

TEEN
T
TEEN

Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 60 KB

**...to give you a chance
to feel your fingers and the rhythm**

Final Score ● ● ●
Todd Zuniga

E Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 222 KB



ESPN Int. Track & Field



FIFA 2001 Major League Soccer

**FIFA 2001
Major League Soccer****Publisher** EA Sports
Developer EA Canada**Web Site** www.easports.com

It's a shame the popularity of soccer in America often flutters between Jim and none. Sure, we're captivated by the big-time of the World Cup, but when it comes down to it, the best football, basketball, hockey and baseball players compete right here on the American stage, while the best football combatants are any where but the 48 contiguous.

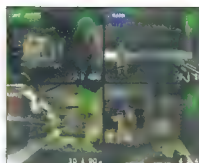
With FIFA 2001 we're given our home MLS league, the stars and stripes of lame American soccer which means the real prize of the wonderfully fun and clean game comes from the international teams and their charismatic stars. And these stars are so accurately ren-

tered you can search for them on the pitch. You can see France's Zinedine Zidane's Finar Tuck bald spot from halfway across the field while a close-up shows Holland's Edgar Davids sporting his market ng genius in the form of a pair of Oakleys. I say condition, my butt! And England's David Beckham looks as brilliant as he plays.

As for gameplay, it's a culmination of what the FIFA franchise has been working toward for the last years. Players don't move in herds, and they don't move at the same speed. If your striker just rushed in a scoring opportunity, he's not going to sprint away just because the keeper cleared the ball halfway down the field. Instead he'll loaf, catch his breath and get ready for another run at the goal.

Complaint is the under-aggressive CPU. Even on the medium difficulty, the CPU may take up to seven seconds to go for the ball if you're not doing anything. Pooh. On the other hand, the AI clearly knows what's at stake. If you're about to knock a team from World Cup contention, they'll spike the aggression and press to score the golden goal. If they're up late, they'll hang back on "D" and turn into a ball control club. It adds a lot when the CPU is always strategizing.

FIFA is all about adrenaline. Notching a big goal is a huge rush, and the crowd chants and flag waves accordingly. Once you're in the game, you stay immersed. Buy this, even if you're leery of soccer.

Final Score ●●●●●**Todd Zuniga****Players: 1-8
Memory Card: 548 KB**

TimeSplitters

Make some friends and then invite them over

Publisher Eidos Interactive**Developer** Free Radical**Web Site** www.eidos.com

We've been harping on about this one for ages, so now that we've got our hands on the final code there's one big question: Does it live up to expectations? Yes. Yes. YES! Please sir, can I have another!

It's not a spectacularly complex game by any stretch of imagination. As a one-player experience it's almost old-school in its simplicity. Jump into a full run around, shoot stuff, find a item, and run back to where you started. Do each level on medium and hard and open new levels, characters and challenges. Nothing to it. The bad guys are frickin' psychos and all you watch them annihilate you. It's a few times you pay, you'll realize this game is a bit different from previous first-person shooters.

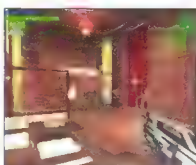
They'll hide behind doorways, under tables, behind walls, and they'll even shoot random, waving their guns above their heads to fend you off! They really do seem like they're more aware and when you're at the highest level, they're literally hundred

chances are thought and to buy TimeSplitters the one-player experience you're aware of it. It's a month's worth of fun. It's one of the finest we've ever come across. Fast.

It's a bit different from previous first-person shooters.

UI has a lot of information, just at a glance. This is just as good as we expected.

Final Score ●●●●●
John Davison

**Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 106 KB**

SPLIT-SCREEN REVIEWING

This is, as far as I'm concerned, the greatest FPS ever to grace a console, at least in terms of multiplayer. The key element is speed—TimeSplitters has it; the others don't. And as far as stats and options are concerned, well, imagine GoldenEye, only better. This game simply rocks.

Joe Rybicki

Prior to TimeSplitters I'd never played an FPS in my life—I just wasn't interested. But this game instantly won me over with its effortless control and silky-smooth gameplay. If companies continue to release titles like this, I might have to rethink that whole "RPG-guy" thing.

Gary Steinman

As a guy predominantly interested in sports gaming, TimeSplitters still managed to cast quite a spell over me. The 4-player mode was ultra competitive, but led to some genuine fun amongst the guys shooting me. I died too quickly, too often; otherwise I have no complaints.

Todd Zuniga

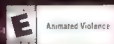


MIDWAY
www.midway.com



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ASCII



PHOTO BY TOM SERVINO



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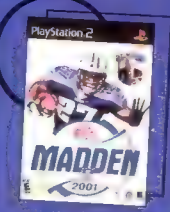
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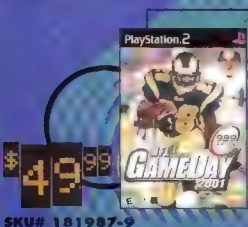


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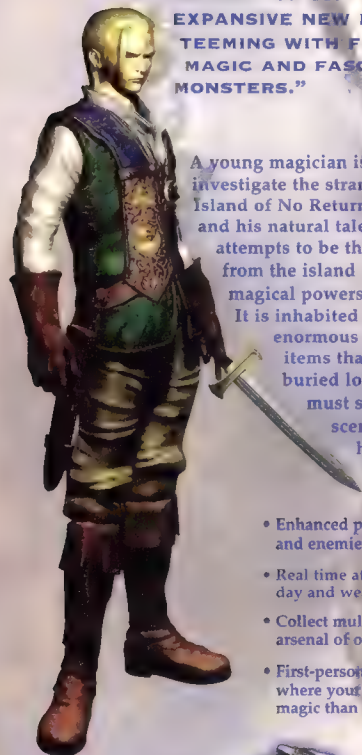
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— GAMER'S REPUBLIC



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It is inhabited by numerous beasts, enormous dragons, and magical items that were supposed to be buried long ago. As Cain, the player must solve several baffling scenarios whilst keeping his hide intact in his search for the ultimate magic ring.

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- Collect multiple magic rings to build an arsenal of offensive and defensive spells.
- First-person perspective in an RPG adventure where your combat skills will rely more on magic than swordplay.

ETERNAL RING



FROMSOFTWARE



*Terrifying monsters inhabit
the Island of No Return*



*Gather magic rings to cast
devastating spells*



*First-person view requires
precise combat skills*



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[illegible][illegible]

John Who want to play
Crash Bash then we can play
party game, so it's a fun
Really it will. As long as
old-style arcade game like
Pengo or Pengo
Joe OK What's Pengo
John You were playing
you threw things at each other
Sam I think (over his shoulder)
I wanna play
[game loads...slowly]
Joe It's just a game
Sam It's not like the peng
thing where you're played
at ECTS and it was great
[much Pogo playing ensues]
John This is boring
John I'm not having any fun
Sam Shuddup!



ATV: Quad Power Racing
 Publisher
 Developer
 Web Site :



**Batman Beyond:
Return of the Joker**
Publisher Ubisoft
Developer Kemco
Web Site www.ubisoft.com



A screenshot of the classic arcade game Breakout. A yellow ball is in motion, hitting a green paddle at the bottom. The background is a dark blue sky with a yellow sun or moon. The word "Breakout" is written in a stylized font at the bottom.

Breakout
Publisher [redacted]
Developer [redacted]
Web Site [www.\[redacted\].com](http://www.[redacted].com)
 It starts out [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]

fully zone out into a hypnotic daze

your ATV won't slow
down if you take it off the course

Final Score ●
Chris Baker



insane difficulty. Though the

game don't count on saving your

Final Score
Chris Baker



And yes, it does have a somewhat absurd story mode. In fact, Hironaka has achieved a relatively

But while fun, the whole game can be finished in about two hours.

Final Score ●●
Gary Steinman





Final Fantasy IX

The final PS one Fantasy is the best one yet

Publisher Square EA
Developer Squaresoft
Web Site www.squaresoft.com
What a difference a year makes! Last October, when we reviewed Final Fantasy VII, we called it a masterpiece, saying it surprised the incredibly high expectations set on the game and stood "fantastic" the park as the best PlayStation RPG so far.

And now, after investing about less delight in the first two, the doughty enchanting sequel, it's a comfortably say the same thing about Final Fantasy IX.

Check that: FFIX is the best PlayStation RPG so far. It's without reservation, the best PS one RPG ever. It's that good.

While many have derided it as a throwback to earlier Fantasies, in many ways, instead that this is the ultimate evolution of the series, with the finest battle system, the most sympathetic characters, the most engrossing story, and the clearest direction yet. And while the music isn't the pinnacle of the series (it

is, partial to the finely crafted tunes in FVIII), it is the best FF soundtrack on the PS one.

What's more, the game is a stunning graphical achievement. The 3D characters are extremely detailed, and the backgrounds are hand-painted art. And the world is full of life and detail. It's a truly beautiful game.

And the cinematics—my goodness, they're sweet! Not only are they stunning to look at, but they're also well-timed and perfectly timed to appear at all the right moments.

Each FMV sequence actually advances the story. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game.

And the cinematics—my goodness, they're sweet! Not only are they stunning to look at, but they're also well-timed and perfectly timed to appear at all the right moments.

Each FMV sequence actually advances the story. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game.

The writing is also a treat. The translation is clean and conversational, the story is full of light humor and heart. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game. It's a truly beautiful game.

MINIREVIEWS FOR MINIGAMES

One of the hallmarks of the Final Fantasy series is its numerous and addictive minigames. So how does the current batch of diversions stack up? Here's the lowdown:

TETRAMASTER

As someone who completed the entire Triple Triad game in FVIII, I feel more than qualified to judge this one. But here it is: the minigame decided to be only about the rules for Tetramaster, leaving it up to the gamer to figure out. Not smart in my book, especially since the rules are quite complex. (Ventura's learned some of the nuances from XG's Sum Miller, but even then the game remained a mystery.)
Final Score: incomplete

CHOCOBO HOT & COLD

Hunt and catch items and treasures with this quirky legendary minigame. It's a simple but rewarding you can pretty much do it all. It's also got a decent delectable afterthought.
Final Score: ●●●●●

FROG CATCHING

Not that it is, but it's a minigame. However, it's not enough to catch the frog and throw it. The effort.
Final Score: ●●●

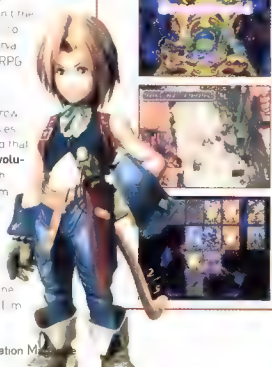
MOGNET

Nothing goes so quickly as save points. But Mogs are a network of buddies who exchange letters.

among each other. They ask you to deliver their messages, and if you do, you might learn some interesting things about the world you're in. Keep an eye out for the mysterious Shyren. Who'da thunk that saving your game could be so much fun?
Final Score: ●●●●●

OTHER

Throughout the game, you'll encounter everything from foot races to jumping rope to timed hunts and chase sequences. All these games go a long way to help break up the action. You also be rewarded for collecting and distributing special items, a treasure hunter's dream.
Final Score: ●●●●●





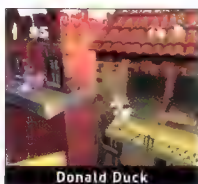
Destruction Derby Raw



Donald Duck



Destruction Derby Raw



Donald Duck

Destruction Derby Raw

Publisher Midway

Developer Studio 33

Web Site www.midway.com

I think there's a little something in it all that gives these cars smashing into one another. But about a few years ago, behind the impact, perhaps there's a little something that makes it a little more fun. Whatever, the case may be, the destruction of automobiles by tanking made the Destruction Derby cars a sordid, one French installation, were once used to kill each other. Known for its "Derby" but not for its "Smashes, jumps and turns just feel right," and once you get the hang of the power, speed and reverse power, the game starts to get real. Add to the mix, there are loads of tracks, a 100-watt engine, one must master for racing and smashing into opponents. It's a point. There are some player options, but due to the small screen, these aren't overly impressive. The music and sound effects more than make the grade, resulting in an overall kind of new DDR game. If any of the series should check it out.

Final Score ●●●●●
Sam Kennedy

Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 1 block

Donald Duck: Goin' Quackers

Publisher Disney

Developer Disney

Web Site www.disney.com

It's a little something in it all that gives these cars smashing into one another. But about a few years ago, behind the impact, perhaps there's a little something that makes it a little more fun. Whatever, the case may be, the destruction of automobiles by tanking made the Destruction Derby cars a sordid, one French installation, were once used to kill each other. Known for its "Derby" but not for its "Smashes, jumps and turns just feel right," and once you get the hang of the power, speed and reverse power, the game starts to get real. Add to the mix, there are loads of tracks, a 100-watt engine, one must master for racing and smashing into opponents. It's a point. There are some player options, but due to the small screen, these aren't overly impressive. The music and sound effects more than make the grade, resulting in an overall kind of new DDR game. If any of the series should check it out.

Final Score ●●●●●
Gary Steinman

Players: 1
Memory Card: 1 block



Medal of Honor Underground

One order of French-fried Nazi, to go

Publisher Electronic Arts

Developer TriStar Interactive

Web Site www.ea.com

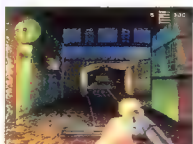
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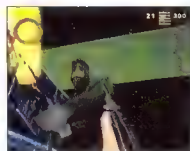
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Everything from the music, to the level design, to the historical authenticity is just so well done that it makes it so easy to overlook any faults.



the game looks awesome for the PS one





...the level design in Underground is simply superb

...the level design in Underground is simply superb



...the enemies are now a lot smarter

Final Score ●●●●
Sam Kennedy

Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 1 block



F1 Racing Championship



F1 Racing Championship

F1 Racing Championship

Publisher Hasbro Interactive
Developer Artech Studios
Web Site www.hisb-rointeractive.com

...this is actually a simulation of last year's season

...this is actually a simulation of last year's season

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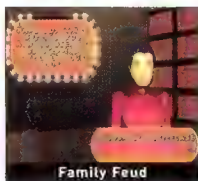
...this is actually a simulation of last year's season

Final Score ●●●
John Davison

Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 1 block



Family Feud



Family Feud

Family Feud

Publisher Hasbro Interactive
Developer Artech Studios
Web Site www.hisb-rointeractive.com

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

...Fans of the show should dig it.

Final Score ●●●
Chris Baker

Players: 1-10
Memory Card: 1 block



FIFA 2001



FIFA 2001

FIFA 2001 Major League Soccer

Publisher EA Sport
Developer EA GAMES
Web Site www.easport.com

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

...great game in the series

Final Score ●●●●●
John Davison

Players: 1-4
Memory Card: 1 block



REVIEWS



Mega Man Legends 2

Publisher Capcom
Developer Capcom
Web Site www.capcom.com
In the past few months, Duke has
been followed everywhere. World
Ranger is not just a game, it's a
franchise. The game is
JJ Meia. Meia is a
The game is not
ever. Feed the
displays the po
characters.

It's got a wonderful sense of humor, some wacky minigames and professional-quality voice acting. The graphics may be a bit blurry, but it's a great time to relive the adventures of Mario, Luigi and Yoshi.



NBA Live 2001

Go one-on-one with the great ones



Publisher _____
Developer _____
Web Site _____



1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

2. Next, it is important to gather relevant information and data. This can be done through research, consultation with experts, or by analyzing existing data sets.

3. Once the information is gathered, the next step is to develop a plan or strategy to address the problem. This may involve breaking the problem down into smaller, more manageable parts.

4. The fourth step is to implement the plan. This involves putting the strategy into action and monitoring progress as the work progresses.

5. Finally, it is essential to evaluate the results and make adjustments as needed. This involves comparing the actual outcomes with the expected results and identifying any areas for improvement.

...the biggest gripe with Live is that it's not much different from last year's game

sprinkles on an already iced cake

[illegible]

strange occurrences on "D." When

Final Score ●●●●

Todd Zuniga

Players: 1-8
Memory Card: 4 blocks

NBA Live 2001

The Timberwolves will be looking to KG this season to take them to that upper echelon.

Inbounding	In late-game situations your guards are stupidly deep in your end. That's bad AI.
Defending	Defending is an actual skill in this game. But it also allows for some laziness.
Special Moves	A nice collection of behind-the-back and spin moves. You decide when they happen.
Timing	It's all based on timing and letting loose at the peak of your jump.
Player Models	All kinds of sizes and shapes, but they should've declined on the close-ups.
Announcing	A lot of insightful commentary from competent announcers.
Extra Moves	You've got the 3-point contest, the 1-on-1 and a simple practice mode.



NBA ShootOut 2001

Create-a-Dunk not enough *umph* for the postseason

Publisher: EA
Developer: EA
Web Site: www.ea.com
NBA ShootOut 2001 is a basketball game for the PlayStation 2. It is the first game in the NBA ShootOut series to be developed by EA. The game features a variety of new features, including a new Create-a-Dunk mode, a new Create-a-Player mode, and a new Create-a-Team mode. The game also features a new Create-a-Dunk mode, a new Create-a-Player mode, and a new Create-a-Team mode.



Inside game play is chaotic and fast-paced. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

my guards are the worst free-throw shooters in the western hemisphere. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

NBA ShootOut 2001

<p>Don't try to throw the ball in too quickly. Suspendly, your player could be out of bounds.</p>	<p>Unbounding</p>
<p>If you don't have staring-contest concentration, you're going to really pay for it.</p>	<p>Defending</p>
<p>When you want to spin or cross over, your dribbler might end up doing a stutter-step.</p>	<p>Special Moves</p>
<p>The meter doesn't do anything but get in the way. Touch-shooting isn't a big plus.</p>	<p>Shooting</p>
<p>The players look really good, but once they're in the paint it's a mess.</p>	<p>Player Models</p>
<p>It's two different worlds. Sometimes they're right-on; sometimes they're not watching.</p>	<p>Announcing</p>
<p>You can get technical with the Create-a-Dunk, but more would've been nice.</p>	<p>Extra Modes</p>

While C-Web as their big man, expect bigger things for the Kings this year. This hulk can do it all.

Go with EA's Live this year

Final Score ●●●

Todd Zuniga

Players: 1-8

Memory Card: 1 block



Mike Tyson Boxing



MTV Sports: Pure Ride



Mike Tyson Boxing



MTV Sports: Pure Ride

Mike Tyson Boxing

Publisher: Codemasters
Developer: Codemasters
Web Site: www.codemasters.com

The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

physics are suspect. Somehow, in the game, the physics are suspect. Somehow, in the game, the physics are suspect. Somehow, in the game, the physics are suspect.

solid, intuitive trick system. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

Final Score ●●●
Todd Zuniga

Players: 1-8

Memory Card: 1 block

MTV Sports: Pure Ride

Publisher: THQ
Developer: THQ
Web Site: www.thq.com

The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

frame-rate is the drastic drop in frame-rate from the previous title. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

Final Score ●●●
Joe Rybicki

The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time. The game is a lot of fun to play, and it's a great way to spend some time.

Players: 1-2

Memory Card: 1 block



But enough about us...

What do you think?



MTV Sports



MTV Sports

MTV Sports: Skateboarding featuring Andy MacDonald

Publisher THQ

Developer Darkblack

Web Site www.thq.com

Try to stay on the board.

board, and you'll be a

skateboarder. It's that

easy. The game is a

simple, straightforward

skateboarding game

that's designed to be

a fun, easy-to-play

game for kids and

adults alike. It's a

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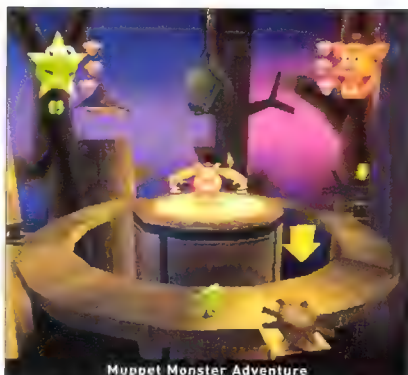
adults alike. It's a

simple, straightforward

skateboarding game

that's designed to be

a fun, easy-to-play



Muppet Monster Adventure

Trying to grind will usually lead to acts of controller-spiking fury. Only the balance meter will tell you if you're going to fall, because your

balance meter will tell you if you're going to fall, because your

balance meter will tell you if you're going to fall, because your

Final Score ●
Todd Zuniga

RP
Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 1 block



MTV Sports

Muppet Monster Adventure

Publisher Midway

Developer Midway

Web Site www.midway.com

Monster Adventure is basically a Spyro game with the Muppets license attached. In fact, you can

Monster Adventure is basically a Spyro game with the Muppets license attached. In fact, you can

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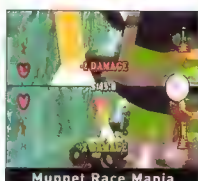
The graphics could use a bit of polish as well. But for a kid game,

Final Score ●●●●
Gary Steinman

E
Players: 1
Memory Card: 1 block



Muppet Race Mania



Muppet Race Mania

Muppet Race Mania

Publisher Midway

Developer Midway

Web Site www.midway.com

Muppet Race Mania is a kart-racing game that's designed to be a fun, easy-to-play

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What could actually be the deepest kart-racing game anywhere

What could actually be the deepest kart-racing game anywhere

What could actually be the deepest kart-racing game anywhere

What could actually be the deepest kart-racing game anywhere

Final Score ●●●●
Chris Baker

E
Players: 1-2
Memory Card: 1 block

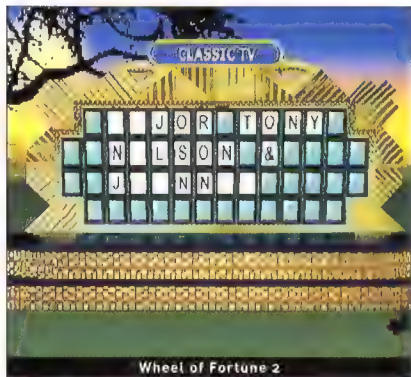
DINO CRISIS 2

Mature
Animated Blood and Gore
Animated Violence



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WWW.CAPCOM.COM

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Wheel of Fortune 2

Wheel of Fortune 2

Publisher: Hasbro Interactive
Developer: Artech Studios
Web Site: hasbrointeractive.com
 Wheel of Fortune 2nd Edition is more than just another set of 2,500 word puzzles to solve. It's time the standard studio setup found last time is replaced with themes like D-50 and Great Outdoors. Other cool additions include career stats, tournament mode, behind the scenes interview with staff and the best of the bunch a 3D puzzle Contestant Exam that lets you know if you're true Wheel material. You can even control, though behind your spin. It's still just Yanna, though—no Pat anyway.
Final Score: ●●●●
Chris Baker

Players: 1-3
Memory Card: 1 block

World Destruction League: Thunder Tanks

Publisher: 3D
Developer: 3D
Web Site: www.3do.com
 There are cool features in WD, but before finding them, you'll learn whether you're prone to seizure. This game features more flashes than a strobe light—a product of ismial frame-rate, not special effects. I could go on about how it's, but by staying at the sun for about 15 minutes, no blinking—just a very sense of the sort of mad pleasure this supplies. B... appears and reappears... yes for no reason!
Final Score: ●
Todd Zungo

Players: 1-3
Memory Card: 1 block



Thunder Tanks

PS2 Review Archive

Game names in ... indicate a Greatest Hits title. Ratings in red indicate a low-disc score.

Game	Publisher	Score	Issue	Game	Publisher	Score	Issue
Dynasty Warriors 2	Koei	●●●●	18	Clash Tower	Asac	●●●●	2
Eternal Ring	Agearc	●●	18	Cross Tower 1	Asac	●●●●	18
Madeline NH 2001	EA Sports	●●	18	Crash Bandicoot: Warped	Activision	●●●●	18
NHL 2001	EA Sports	●●	18	Cross Tower 2	Asac	●●●●	18
Ridge Racer V	Namco	●●●●	18	Cross Tower 3	Asac	●●●●	18
SSX	EA Sports BIG	●●●●	18	Cross Tower 4	Asac	●●●●	18
Swing Away Golf	EA Games	●●●●	18	Cross Tower 5	Asac	●●●●	18
X Squad	EA Games	●●●●	18	Cross Tower 6	Asac	●●●●	18
Xtreme	989 Studios	●	21	Cross Tower 7	Asac	●●●●	18

PS one Review Archive

40 Walls	GT Interactive	●●●●	26	Crash Bandicoot: Warped	Activision	●●●●	18
A Bug's Life	Sony CEA	●●	15	Cross Tower 1	Asac	●●●●	18
Ace Combat 2	Namco	●●●●	15	Cross Tower 2	Asac	●●●●	18
Ace Combat 3: Electrosphere	Namco	●●●●	15	Cross Tower 3	Asac	●●●●	18
Action Bass	Take Two	●●	27	Cross Tower 4	Asac	●●●●	18
Ally the Heartless	Crystal Dynamics	●●	16	Cross Tower 5	Asac	●●●●	18
Alundra	Rockstar	●	23	Cross Tower 6	Asac	●●●●	18
Alundra 2	Rockstar	●	38	Cross Tower 7	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian Ice Pin Alley	Working Designs	●●●●	4	Cross Tower 8	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 9	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 10	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 11	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 12	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 13	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 14	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 15	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 16	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 22	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 31	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 33	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 34	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 35	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 65	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 68	Asac	●●●●	18
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Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 85	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 86	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 87	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 88	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 89	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 90	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 91	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 92	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 93	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 94	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 95	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 96	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 97	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 98	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 99	Asac	●●●●	18
Amnuchian: Shared Reality	ASC	●●●●	32	Cross Tower 100	Asac	●●●●	18

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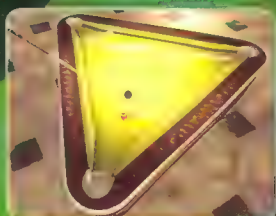
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PlayStation 2

TAKARA



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PS one Review Archive (cont.

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New for the PlayStation®2!

The critically acclaimed action game MDK™2 Armageddon is coming to the PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system. MDK™ became an instant classic with its offbeat humor and the ingenious Sniper Helmet that could shoot an enemy in the eye from a mile away. Now, picking up where the original MDK™ left off, MDK™2: Armageddon features a new 3D engine, advanced graphics, and new gadgets for outrageous gameplay.

Play as three different characters, each with his own unique experience:

- Sneak, snipe and shoot with the reluctant hero, Kurt Hectic, in his new Coil Suit, now with Cloaking ability, and his Sniper Helmet with Ricochet Bullets.
- Solve puzzles as the brilliant Dr. Fluke Hawkins, using wacky inventions like the atomic toaster and his fearsome alter-ego, Mr. Hyde.
- Blast enemies with four different weapons simultaneously with Max, the six-legged, jet-pack carrying, robotic dog.

MDK™2 Armageddon includes incredible new items for enhanced gameplay, more humor, and a totally new experience. Bioware, creators of the best-selling RPG Baldur's Gate™ are taking the MDK™ universe to all new levels of comic Action!

COMING
SOON

MDK2

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for more info

PlayStation 2

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This Month's Strategies

Tony Hawk	182
Int. Track & Field	186
SSX	188
Madden 2001	190
Chrono Cross	192

Top Secret Agents

Kenneth "Slim" Miller,
Terry Minnich, Dave Malec

With the weather chilling there's no better way to warm up than smearing a couple skaters in Tony Hawk's hotly anticipated sequel. Since we didn't want your whole November to go to waste we're holding on to the final pages of the strategy until next month. 'Til then finish off Chrono Cross and hammer away at the circus of PS2 games, including EA's acclaimed Madden and SSX! Oh, and before Thanksgiving dinner send your coolest tricks to OPM@ziffdavis.com and title the e-mail Tricks Forum.

DINO CRISIS 2

RACKING UP CRAZY
DINO CRISIS DOUGH

• **Open the safe.** In the first level, you'll find a safe in the kitchen. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the second level, you'll find a safe in the living room. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the third level, you'll find a safe in the bedroom. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the fourth level, you'll find a safe in the bathroom. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the fifth level, you'll find a safe in the hallway. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the sixth level, you'll find a safe in the kitchen. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the seventh level, you'll find a safe in the living room. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the eighth level, you'll find a safe in the bedroom. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the ninth level, you'll find a safe in the bathroom. Use the key to open it and get the money. In the tenth level, you'll find a safe in the hallway. Use the key to open it and get the money.

TONY HAWK'S PRO SKATER 2

Cruising to 100%

There's plenty to do in Tony Hawk 2, and just enough to do to make sure you get very far. This guide will help you get through the tough parts (we figure you can find the right ramps and rails to do most of it on your own). So if there's something you just can't seem to figure out, no worries, we've got it here. There are also handy maps at each level that tell you where to go to grab the cash, achieve the goals, and be a legit pro skater. Scoring Olympic-style gold in the competitions will net you a skating name of your skater, but you'll have to finish all the levels (including the ones you can't get the truest street cred (and to unlock a cheat).

Unlocking the Sequel

After Tony Hawk's Pro Skater had plenty to do, but the sequel was just a skate show. With the sequel there aren't only unlockables, but also some sweet surprises. Usually we'd hook you up with all the unlocking knowledge, but this is a special game, so we'll just tell you how to unlock the coolest stuff. First off, if you want the sickest unlockable on this side of an action game, make a created skater in your image and 100% everything you can. You'll marvel at the results. As for other characters, you'll have to 100% the game, and that means everything, to unlock cool cheats that make the game much easier. For some of the coolest unlockables, don't hold your breath, you'll have to 100% the game with every skater, unlockable skaters included. It's a lot of work, but it's worth it. Finally, hit all the gaps on the Gap Checklist to unlock the final mascot!

OPM's Very Own

Alright, there's some unlockables just not worth it. For example, the "Hawkeye" skater is about 100% the game with any pro skater and you'll unlock a skater with some authority. Take that skater and go through the Career Mode and not gold medals in the competitions. You'll unlock a video with OPM's very own "Gold Zipline" (dropping from a zipline). And yes, that's his ass showing, soon after.

Bust-A-Move '99

New Puzzles: At the Press Start Button screen, press Circle Left. In the screen, you should see an enemy. Using the enemy, you can get the money. Now press Start and go to the Arcade Mode. Circle Left. Press the Start button. Choose your character. Now pick your starting level (A or B) and you will have new puzzle to solve.

Colin McRae Rally

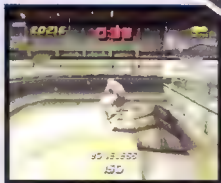
Open All Tracks: From the main screen, choose Colin McRae Rally. Press the Circle Left button. When asked to enter your name, put the following password: OPENROAD, and then press OK and press A. Now a vote say. Try to be a winner. After that go back to the main menu screen and choose Rally. When you go to choose your car, you will see that you can now use the Super-Special stage in Greece.

Crash Team Racing

On the main menu screen, hold L+R+T and press the Circle Left button. This will bring up the results as shown. You will see the results. When entered correctly, you can play as the character. Unlock Komodo Joe: Press Down Circle Left, Left Triangle, Right Down. You can play as Komodo Joe in any mode except Adventure. Unlock Papu Papu: Press Left Triangle, Right Down, Right Circle, Left Left Down. You can play as Papu.

Mullet Falls

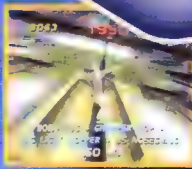
Mullet Falls is a sweet introduction to the new Tony Hawk world. The challenge here is the same as the first game: do it all in one two-minute run.



This is one of three Hangtime Gaps, and the hardest to master. If you land in a Manual, you'll get credit for yet another successful gap.



Of all the Wings you'll need to grab, going up this ramp is the only way to get this pair. If you don't have enough Air skills, this one might be tough.



After setting the chopper afloat, you'll have to get up enough speed to reach this dubious light fixture. Boneless off the ramp and push up to get the mad air.



You'll have to get the Wings here anyway, so you might as well grind this propeller and unlock the secret area. Inside you'll find four big bills to add to your college fund.



The Hidden Tape isn't hard to find once you open the door. You'll need to temper your speed and ollie onto the helicopter blades. Grind the tip of the blade and the chopper will take off, opening a door to the suddenly easy-to-find tape.



Paper on any mode except
Adventure

Unlock Pinstripe: Pres., Left Right, Triangle, Down, Right. Down, you can play as Pinstripe in any mode except Adventure.

More Tracks: Right, Right, Left, Triangle, Right, Down, Down

Invisible Racer (only wheels): Up, Jo, Down, Right, Right, Up.

Super Turbo Pads: Triangle, Right, Right, Circle, Left.

Right, Right, Left, Right, Triangle, Right.

"Unlimited" Tricks: You can use the program to create a wide variety of effects, including:

Unlimited Wumpa Fruit Down,
Right, Right, Down, Down

Unlimited Bombs: Triangle, Right, Down, Right, Up, Triangle, Left.

Right, Left \rightarrow Right Drive

Unlock a New Racer: On the main

entered the code correctly. Now choose either "Time Trial."

"Arcade," "VS." or "Battle." On the player selection screen, you will see

the modes except Advertising Mode

Ripper Roo: Right, Circle, Circle
Down, Up, Down, Right

N. Trophy: Down, Left, Right
Down, Right, Right

Fear Effect

man y... the ... screen
... the ... the ...

On the right side screen
water in the holes show
De. A. 10. A. The the screen last
and 100.3. and 100.2. and 100.1.

999 Ammunition: 100 Triangles up

DEAR Sir or Madam,
Square Left Triangle

Unlimited Health: 1 Triangle 2
2 Wires 1 Triangle

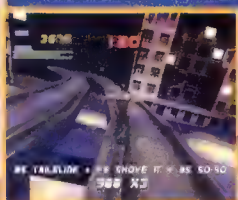
New York

If you want to be a part of it, you best watch out for New York cabbies. Oh, and until you collect the Subway Tokens you're only seeing half.

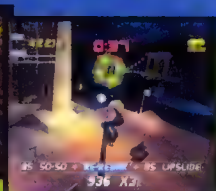
After seeing the assembly tracks and grind until you see the brick wall. Leap over and land to collect the token. And welcome to the Banks.



After you'll have to grind and fly around and grab the Subway Tokens. Once you have the subway tokens you can go.



To the right of the starting point you'll see Joey's Sculpture sticking up. Run across over and grab the token.



The Secret Tape takes concentration and a bit of practice. After awhile this is a breeze. How to get it? Get to the Banks and find the unfinished street. Line up with the rail and grind. Then ollie early, pushing left, and grind onto the opposite rail.



There's some rogue cash hanging around atop the fence that's keeping you from the river below. To get to the moollah, get speed from the ramps opposite, then boneless off the incline and grind.



Here's a fifty that'll make your blood boil. Just get to the subway and grind along, then drop off. Easier than it looks.



This isn't the way to go about nabbing this Roaming Kitty. Instead, go to the right and launch off the ramp. Much, much easier than it looks.

you can't see the power. In the end, you'll see the power. Unlock Mills Lane: Go to the Exhibition and fight a match in any of the arenas. During the fight, you'll see the power. Go to the Exhibition and fight a match in any of the arenas. During the fight, you'll see the power. Go to the Exhibition and fight a match in any of the arenas. During the fight, you'll see the power.

Legacy of Kain:

Soul Reaper
Refill Health: Hold L1 and press Down, Circle, Up, Left, Up, Left.
Next Level Health: Hold L1 and press Right, Circle, Down, Up, Down, Up.
Maximum Health: Hold L1 and press Right, Circle, Down, Up, Down, Up.
Refill Magic: Hold L1 and press Right, Right, Left, Triangle, Right, Down.
Maximum Magic: Hold L1 and press

Triangle, Right, Down, Right, Up, Triangle, Left.
Pass Through Barriers: Hold L1 and press Down, Circle, Circle, Left, Right, Triangle, Up.
Wall Climbing: Hold L1 and press Triangle, Down, L2, Right, Up, Down.
Hurt Raziell: Hold L1 and press Left, Circle, Up, Up, Down.
Force: Hold L1 and press Left, Right, Circle, Left, Right, Left.
Constrict: Hold L1 and press Down, Up, Right, Right, Circle, Up, Up, Down.

Down.
Force Glyph: Hold L1 and press Down, Left, Triangle, Down, Up, Stone Glyph: Hold L1 and press Down, Circle, Up, Left, Down, Right, Right.
Sound Glyph: Hold L1 and press Right, Right, Down, Circle, Up, Up, Down.
Water Glyph: Hold L1 and press Down, Circle, Up, Down, Right.
Fire Glyph: Hold L1 and press Up, Right, Up, Triangle, L2, Right.
Sunlight Glyph: Hold L1 and press

Left, Circle, Left, Right, Left, Up, Up, Left.
Shift at Any Time: Hold L1 and press Up, Up, Down, Right, Right, Left, Circle, Right, Left, Down, Down.
Madden NFL 2000
 Enter one of the following codes at the code entry screen to activate the corresponding cheat function:
20 Yard First Downs: F R5T S20
Super Stiff Arm: SMACADOWN
Super Jump: SPRONG
More Injuries: PAINFUL.



READER TRICKS

Hot Shots Golf 2

from janold@webtv.net

To unlock all characters, courses, clubs, balls, goodies and be a top pro enter 26SH as your name at the start of a new game.

Spider-Man Codes

from Mike Goodloe

For all of these codes select the "Special" option from the main menu, then choose "Cheats."

Level select: XCLSIOR

Invincibility: RUSTCRST

Infinite webbing: STRUDL

All comic books: ALLSIXCC

All movies: WATCH EM

All characters in viewer: CVIEW EM

Storyboard viewer: CGOSSETT

"What if contest?" mode: GBHRSPM

Ben Reilly costume: BNREILLY

Symbiote Spider costume: BLKSPIDR

Spider 2099 costume: TWNTYNDN

Captain Universe costume: COSMIC

Spider Unlimited costume: PARALLEL

Scarlet Spider costume: LETTER S

Amazing Bagman costume: AMZBGMAN

Peter Parker costume: MJS STUO

Quick Change Spider costume: ALMSTPKR

J. James Jewett: RULAR

Full Health: DCSTUR

Big Head mode: DULUX

Debug mode: LLADNEK

Unlock Everything: EEL NATS

Spider-Man Non-Profanity Codes

from jnmcg@cablone.net

Go to Special and then to Cheats. Enter the word "ass" and go to finish. Spider-Man will appear on the screen and punch the word!

Landing the 900 in Tony Hawk's Pro Skater

from Owen Humphreys

The best way to do it, [I land it ever time] is to make sure you have a decent amount of speed (best if you do this in a halfpipe or pool, almost all levels have something like it) and then enter Right. Down as you're going up the ramp and hit 0 the second you leave the ramp. It lands it every time for me.

New Pro Skater Grind

from MikeExpo@aol.com

In THPS, you can do a special grind in the air by pressing the direction on the d-pad, then holding square and circle simultaneously instead of triangle. For example as Jamie Thomas, leap into the air and press up and up, then hold square and circle for as long as you want. This also works with the Burnt wrist and the Ho Ho Ho.

Marvel vs. Capcom

from Aaron Willis

In Cross-Over Mode, after you have chosen your one character, hold START and the following button commands to receive the specific fighters.

Anita—3 Punches [Square+Triangle+L]

Cyclops—Jab+Short+Strong [Square+X+Triangle]

Iceman—Strong+Forward [Triangle+0]

Juggernaut—Jab+Forward [Square+0]

Lou—Strong [Triangle]

Michelle Heart—Jab+Short [Square+0]

Pure and Fur—Short [X]

Saki—Fierce [L]

Shadow—Jab+Forward+Fierce

[Square+0+L]

Thor—Short+Strong [X+Triangle]

Unknown Soldier—Jab [Square]

Colossus—Jab+Strong+Forward

[Square+Triangle+0]

Devilot—Strong+Fierce [Triangle+L]

Jubilee—Short+Strong+Fierce

[X+Triangle+L]

Arthur—Jab+Strong [Square+Triangle]

Magneto—Short+Fierce [X+L]

Psylocke—Forward [0]

Rogue—3 Punches+Short

[Square+Triangle+L+X]

Sentinel—Strong+Forward+Fierce

[Square+0+L]

Storm—Jab+Short+Fierce [Square+X+L]

Ton Pooh—Jab+Fierce [Square+L]

U.S. Agent—Hold L1 press X

climbe right triangle left left right up

Dave Mirra's BMX Big Fall

from Steve Stewart

In DMBMX pressing all the buttons at the

same time will guarantee a fall from

your bike. It will create some of the funniest and most painful falls in this extreme sport.

Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver

from tammyW232@aol.com

All Abilities—Hold L1 press up

down right right left circle right left down

Fire Reaver—Hold L1 press triangle

right down circle up

Aerial Reaver—Hold L1 press X

right up triangle left left right up

Kain Reaver—Hold L1 Press X

climbe right triangle left left right up

INTERNATIONAL

TRACK & FIELD

WIND SPRINTS

If you're in the mood to lose your fingerprints in order to win a race, you can skip over this advice. This is for anti-masochists. Now, for the rest of you, here are a couple of techniques to really boost your speed down the 100m runway.

- 1 **USE A PEN:** A No. 2 pencil might be perfect for standardized testing, but all it'll get you here is a yellow X button. Go with a rounded pen for best results and run it back and forth over the X and O buttons at a ferocious pace. There's no better way to hurry to the finish line.



- 2 **USE YOUR OTHER HAND AS AN ANCHOR:** When you're really lashing away at the buttons, the one thing that can really throw your game off is your utensil of choice flying off the controller altogether. One way to avoid this is to use your left hand to anchor the controller. Check out the diagram for best results.



One of the most exhausting and trying adventures on the Olympic circuit is the freestyle. From the moment you dive into that aquatic wonderland you'll have to bust your butt (and every muscle in your arm) to bring home the gold. Here are a few tips, but the one we're not mentioning (lifting weights for a few hours each day) might be your best bet.

- 3 **MOUNTING THE CONTROLLER:** Our best efforts have been achieved while resting the controller atop a knee for balance. It gives a really good arm angle so you can get the most taps in the shortest amount of time.



- 4 **TAPPY-TAPPY:** We've tried everything on the tapping front. What works best? Well, there are two schools of thought. Check the pictures to see the variations. Which one is better? Depends on which one helps you avoid carpal tunnel over the long haul.



- 5 **RHYTHM IS A SWIMMER:** Boating the buttons to death doesn't seem like the best way to steal gold, not to mention your arm might detach into a hemorrhaging heap. Your best bet is to find a rhythm and keep it up. Sure you'll be grinding your teeth, sure your hand will ache, but the glory will come if you kept a well-timed pace better than your neighbor.



**I'd rather be
pissing off skiers**



An aerial photograph showing a multi-lane highway. A large semi-truck is involved in an accident, with its trailer overturned or severely damaged. Several emergency responders, including police officers and paramedics, are on the scene. A police car is visible in the lower left, and a paramedic is near the truck. The scene is marked with yellow tape or cones.

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PLYMOUTH, ENGLAND

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SSX

Unlocking Bonuses: How to get the good stuff

Jurgen (Locked Character)

Earn one Gold Medal in any mode
JP (Locked Character)
 Earn two Gold Medals in any mode
Zoe (Locked Character)
 Earn three Gold Medals in any mode
Jurgen (Locked Character)
 Earn four Gold Medals in any mode

3rd Board

Reach Rookie rank to unlock

4th Board

Reach Senter rank to unlock

5th Board

Reach Contender rank to unlock

6th Board

Reach Natural rank to unlock

7th Board

Reach Star rank to unlock

8th Board

Reach Veteran rank to unlock

9th Board

Reach Champ rank to unlock

10th Board

Reach Superstar rank to unlock

11th Board

Reach Master rank to unlock

3rd Outfit

Complete all Green Circle tricks

4th Outfit

Complete all Blue Square tricks

Unlock Mercury City Meltdown

Earn a medal on Eysum Alps

Unlock Mesablanca

Earn a medal on Mercury City Melt

Unlock Tokyo Megaplex

Earn a medal on Mesablanca

Unlock Aloha Ice Jam

Earn a medal on Tokyo Megaplex

Unlock Pipedream

Earn a medal on Tokyo Megaplex

Unlock Untracked

Earn a gold medal on Aloha Ice Jam

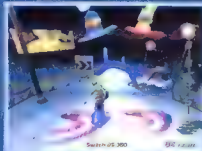
and Pipedream

Showoff mode: Earning the big points

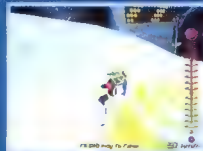
Crucial Instructions: If you are planning on earning any Gold Medals in the Showoff mode, you're going to need a few tips to set you in the right direction. Showoff mode is the most challenging, as well as the most fun element in SSX. You will have to master the course as well as your snowboarder in order to succeed.

First Things First: Choose a boarder that is skilled in the tricks category. Since most of your points are going to be from these tests of skill, you're going to want to be very accurate in what you can get. Mac or Kaon make excellent choices. Moby also works well, but avoid using Elise at all. She doesn't measure up to the rest of the crew. If you have a few races under your belt, the board upgrades will help you out significantly.

Never a Dull Moment: If the course is good and clear and you have some breathing space, try to do some



If you are in the open, try a simple spin move for extra points.



Sharp turns can be turned into combos for extra points.

simple tricks to build up your points. Every little bit helps. The spins are nice as they are a low-risk move with a nice payoff.

Riding up the Sides: Whenever you see a sharp curve, consider riding up the side and jumping at the top into a sweet trick. These easily forgotten sections can provide excellent trick opportunities. Doing this does slow you down a bit, so if you're under tight time constraints, you should use your discretion, so don't get too daring. A good jump

combined properly:

The Shortcuts: Many of the shortcuts in the game will give you access to a nice jump, take advantage of them and you can pull out some of your most flamboyant moves. This is particularly useful in the later levels, where the time limit can be crippling and the hazards numerous. Be warned: Unless you are familiar with a path, it might cost you time if you mess up.

Multipliers

Three Delicious Flavors:

Hidden throughout the courses in Showoff mode are the Crystal Multipliers. These icons, which are usually placed in hard-to-reach areas like the arc of a large jump, will

multiply the score of the trick you are doing when you hit them (you still have to land properly to get the points). If you want to build up a huge score, you need to hit as many of these as possible. Oftentimes a simple yellow crystal (x2) is enough to get you over the top.

Shortcuts: The courses in SSX are enormous, and there are multiple paths and shortcuts to take. We can't tell you, every route to ensure that you get to the finish line before the computer does, but look for shortcuts at places with an SSX logo nearby.

Power-ups: The key to success!



Speed Boost (Racing Only): Blast through this power-up and you'll get an instant boost to your top speed. This only lasts a short time, and if you crash, you'll leave you even quicker. Still, this should get you the speed you need to pull off the real gnarly tricks.

Trick Boost (Racing Only): This power-up serves two purposes. First, it allows you to get more spin in your rotations or flips so you can perform bigger tricks. Secondly, since bigger tricks give you more boost, it sets you up getting even more boost.



Snow Crystal Multiplier

Showoff Only: If you really want to rack up the big points, you're going to want to hit this power-up while you're performing a move. These red ones are the most advantageous, but they're located in the most hard-to-reach spots.

X2 Crystal Multiplier

X1 Crystal Multiplier

X5 Crystal Multiplier

The Trick Book: To open a trick book form it in any of the modes. Sometimes it may seem as though you've done a trick already, but it won't appear in your book. This means that you've comboed it. Your move will not count if it is done as part of a combo.



Use the freestyle mode to fill up your trick book.



(cont. from page 164)

More Sacks: GBINTECLUB
More Fumbles: ROL, ERG RL
Easier Interceptions: P, R, D, C, F
No Interceptions: EXPRESSBA...
Less Penalties: REFSBLIND
Big Versus Small Players: MINIME
Camera Follows Football: VERTIGO
Antarctica Stadium: XMASOFT
Dodge City Stadium: WILDWEST
EA Sports Stadium: IT'SIN THE GAME
Tiburon Stadium: WEPUITTHERE
Tiburon Bros. Stadium: COTTONCANDY

Industials Team: NTHEFTURE
Marshalls Fantasy Team: COWBOY
All-Madden Team: TEAMMADDEN
All '60s Team: M, O, B, A, D
All '70s Team: LOVEBEADS
1972 Steelers Team: DONTGOFOR2
1972 Raiders Team: GETMEADCC
TOR
1976 Raiders Team: CAMMALLIGHT
1976 Patriots Team: HACCHEESE
1981 Dolphins Team: ISMOREMIN
1981 Chargers Team: BUILDMONKEYS

1985 Dolphins Team: H, K, A, I, D
1985 Bears Team: DOWNTOWN, B
1986 Browns Team: KAMEHAMEHA
1986 Broncos team: B, E, S, GREEN
1988 49ers Team: A, L, M, E, S, A, L, L
1988 Bengals Team: PTMOMINFO
GET
1990 Giants Team: PROFSSMOOTH
1990 Bills Team: SPOON
1995 Steelers Team: STEAMPUNK
1995 Colts Team: PREDATORS
1997 Packers Team: TUNDRA
1997 Broncos Team: EARTHPEOPLE

Medal of Honor

Earn a Medal of Honor by completing the Enigma machine power-up in freestyle mode.

Captain Dye Mode: Go to the Enigma machine before starting a new game. Enter CAPTAIN DYE into the machine. While this mode is turned on, your amount of health is consistent in all levels within a mission. If you finish the game in freestyle mode, you will unlock all the hidden multiplayer characters by winning the game. See the recommendation

Nifty Multiplayer Power-ups: Go to the Enigma machine before starting a new game. Enter NIFTY MODE into the machine. Nifty Multiplayer Power-ups during the game adds an entirely new dimension to the multiplayer game.

American Movie Mode: Go to the Enigma machine before starting a new game. Enter SFREEMOVIE into the machine. American Movie Mode. In this mode, the game turns all its power-ups into English movies, like a terrible American movie.

(cont. on page 168)

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0.3. APPAREL CREATED BY THE ECKO MWDLABS



PHYSICAL SCIENCE



cont. fr. p. page 181

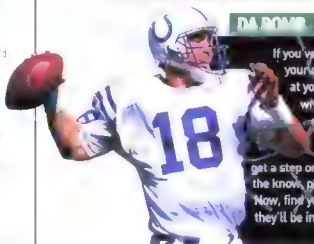
Unlock Winston Churchill in
Multiplayer: **FINESTHOL**
Unlock the Raptor in Multiplayer:
SSP ELBERG
From the options screen choose
Password, then enter any of these
codes into the Enigma Machine.
The codes work in Multiplayer
Mode.

Codes for Multiplayer Mode:
Unlock Wolfgang: **HOOD JP**
Unlock Bismarck: **WOOF WOOF**
Unlock the Herr/CMBIE



GET YOUR KICKS

DA BOM



Once everyone's raring to go at the line, tap Triangle to bring up Hot Routes. Now hold the icon associated with your speediest receiver (we'll say he's represented by Square in this example) and push Up. Swap the ball and watch that receiver go straight out. Once you feel he's got the step he needs, tap the Square button, and we mean tap, and watch the footage. Oftentimes the ball will be overthrown or it will be caught. If it's caught, you've got yourself a big-time catch, often more than 40 yards.



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WIN OVER \$25,000 IN PRIZES



Have you ever dreamed of owning the ultimate gaming rig or home theater system? Here is your opportunity! If you win, we give you a budget and you go on a shopping spree. Tailor your package exactly how you want it. We do not want to pick your prizes for you. You get what you want. The packages described below are examples of what you could buy with your winnings.

CONTEST 1 - VIDEO GAMES

Sony Playstation 2, Sega Dreamcast, PS1, and GameCube. Get all four or trade what you don't want for cash. Options include plenty of games, accessories and a monitor. **Base prize package value \$1400.**

Make It Happen. All this and more could be yours. In these contests everyone starts out equal. There is no luck involved. You win the prizes by outscoring other players in games of skill. Begin your journey by solving the puzzle below. If you stick it out till the end and have the highest score, you go on a shopping spree and we foot the bill. This first puzzle is easy but it gives you an idea of how the contests work. You will receive full information when you enter: You have been given the opportunity to live your dream. Are you up to it?

Future Puzzles: For subsequent prizes, you will receive by mail, four more puzzles at \$2 each and a tie-breaker at \$1. You have three weeks to solve each puzzle. We can not predict the number of entries for each phase.

CONTEST 2 - COMPUTER

700 MHz, 128 mb RAM, 27 gig hard drive, 8X DVD-ROM, CD-RW drive, modem and 17" monitor. Options include software and accessories. **Base prize package value \$2600.**

Typically 59% attain the highest score in phase 1, 47% in phase 2, 30% in phase 3 and 34% in phase 4. The winner will have the highest score after the tie-breaker. Each contest has its own tie-breaker. In the unlikely event that players are still tied, they will split the value of the package they are playing for.

Directions. Follow the directions below to fill in the puzzle. Check the boxes on the entry form to specify the contests you are entering. Add up the entry fees and send that amount with the entry form to the address below. Remember, you can't win if you don't enter. Only one entry per person. Prize totals are estimated prize values.

All entries must be submitted by December 31, 2001. All prize money will be paid by check or money order. We do not have cash prizes.

PRIZE PUZZLE

WORD LIST

TOWER - P	LEGAL - Y
EARTH - X	EMPTY - V
WORLD - U	WATER - T
SPACE - W	COAST - A
HAPPY - O	FIELD - B
SHARE - Z	BLADE - D

		T		
H	A	P	P	O
	L			
			S	
			L	

SECRET WORD →

SECRET WORD CLUE:

What comes after yesterday but before tomorrow?

DIRECTIONS

Fill in the puzzle with the correct words going right across. Transfer each word's corresponding letter to the line at the end. This should spell the secret word going down. HINT: Read the secret word clue

ENTER ME IN THE FOLLOWING CONTESTS:

- ☐ (\$3) Video Game ☐ (\$3) Home Theater
☐ (\$3) Computer ☐ (\$5) Enter All Three

Name 102

Mailing Address Apartment #

City State Zip

Area Code Phone Number

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ELATION, P.O. BOX 44213 DEPT 953, EDEN PRAIRIE, MN 55344

This puzzle is void where prohibited. Employees of Elation, Inc. and its suppliers are ineligible. Judges decisions are final. Where judges are in error the sponsor's liability is limited to the amount of entry fees paid. Elation is not responsible for lost, delayed or stolen mail. Winners will be notified by e-mail no later than December 31, 2001. This contest is open to residents of the U.S. and Canada. Any ill or injured entrant's entry must have parent's permission to play. ©2001 Elation, Inc.

Value of prize packages as follows: Video Game package \$1400 base prize, bonus options \$2350, cash options \$1250. Computer package \$2600 base prize, bonus options \$2650, cash options \$1250. Home theater package \$2745 base prize, bonus options \$3375, cash options \$1250. For any questions e-mail us at elation@uswest.net or call us at 952-826-0033.



*Second installment of our two part strategy.
Check out our November issue for the first half.*

Location: The Temporal Vortex

Plot Progression: Recruit Sprigg, then meet Harle in the room at the top. Catch Harle and escape from the Vortex by way of the hole at the bottom of the area you appear in.

Possible Party Members:

SPRIGG—Joins automatically

HARLE -She joins after you open the door to reality

Miscellaneous: ① Don't forget to re-allocate your elements ② Walk onto a branch to shake a fruit loose, then enter Sprigg's house before she gets back from seeing what happened. ③ To get the chest in the opening area, push the higher rock down two levels so it knocks the other out of the way ④ Open the door that leads to Harle in disguise three times to catch her ⑤ Use the .ever in the Escher-esque area to open another path

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Total Chaos	240	Black	520	Mythril, Gravitonne	Mythril, Trashy

Location: Hydra Marshes, Opassa Beach, Arni Village

Plot Progression: In Opassa Beach, attempt to use the dimensional gate. When it doesn't work, head to Arni Village and speak to Serge's mother. Head to Termina from here.

Possible Party Members: **RADIUS**—He joins after you defeat him.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Radius	790	Green	8	Heal, Magnify	Pendragon Sigil B, Panacea

Location: Fossil Valley, Shadow Forest, Termina

Plot Progression: On the way to Termina, stop by the Shadow Forest to pick up a new party member. In Termina, talking to the guard near the bar reveals that your next stop should be Viper Mountain.



Possible Party Members: FUNGUY—Find him in the cave in the Shadow Forest and give him the Mushroom the lost traveler gave you.

ZAPPA— 'Let him join' when you talk to him in the Blacksmith's Shop

Van— 'Hire him' for a tour when speaking to him in his house, then tell the woman who comes to collect money 'No, we're serious.'

Miscellaneous: ① 300 G fills Van's piggy bank (bring Van to his room). ② The Smith Spirit, when used on the world map, calls up a portable Blacksmith Shop.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Sandus, Dragon	80	Green	8	Leather, Ornaments	Panel, Capsule
Mama Dinoz	72	Red	95		W. White Cap
Demon	60	Green	5	Cure Plus	W. Green Cape
Dodo	50	Blue	95		Water, Magnify
Bull	250	Green	11		Box, Capsule
G	90	Blue	20		W. Blue Pendant
G	90	Blue	20		Cure Plus, Deluge
Goop	205	Blue	250	Cure Plus, Numbie	Numbie, Deluge

Location: Viper Manor

Plot Progression: Find Norris so you can get permission to use the boat at the Termina docks.

Possible Party Members: NORRIS—Joins when you speak to him.

Miscellaneous: ① Use the well to enter the manor. ② In order to battle through the dungeon section of this area, return to the manor with Norris in your party and jump down the sinkhole near the guard on the rubble by the main entrance. ③ Toss the two barrels into the water to create a makeshift bridge to the valve room.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Alphabet	260	Black	69	Hell Bound, Gravity Blow	Hell Bound, Gravity Blow
Gloop	240	Blue	2	Cure Plus, Medicine	Cure Plus, Medicine
Witchetty	450	Blue	240	Humour, Medicine	Cure Plus, Aqua Ball

(cont. from page 190)

hear a voice say, "Cheaters never prosper" once the trick is entered correctly

All Levels Open Down Jp. R ght.
Left, Triangle, X, Square, Circle
Mega Points. L2, R2, L1, R1,
Triangle, Circle, X, Square
All the Gold Medals. Down, Up
Left, Right, Triangle, X, Square,
Circle

MediEvil III

Cheats Menu: Press Start to pause

the game, then press and hold the L2 button. While holding L2, press Triangle, Circle, Triangle, Circle, Triangle, Left Circle, Down, Right, Circle, Left, Triangle, Right, Circle, Left, and Circle. The text "Complete Level" will appear at the bottom of the pause menu. Access this new option to receive Complete Level, Invulnerability, Danhand Abilty, All Levels Open and Head Size. You'll also have options that add health, money and weapons.

Metal Gear Solid

Snake's Tuxedo:

Monitor Rancher

Secret Monster: When you are about to breed a monster, put in the Terno's Deception game CD and you'll get a new character from that game, the Ardebaren when you breed a monster in the shrine. Also, playSai on and computer data CDs that have one track on them will produce purebred monsters.

NBA Shoot Out 2000

Hidden Easter Egg Menu: While playing a game, press Start to pause and then press the _2+R2+Square buttons simultaneously. The Easter Eggs menu will appear and you will be able to choose new options such as big heads, big feet, gravity, speed, etc.

Need for Speed:

High stakes
Con Code: Enter the

(cont. on page 194)



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MONSTER RANCHER BATTLE CARD EPISODE II

UNLEASH CELINE'S INNER MONSTER

Like the past two Monster Rancher games, Battle Card lets you turn to an eclectic assortment of music and game CDs to spawn unique creations. Got a Celine Dion CD? No need to hide your shame anymore—it's all for the love of the game!

MUSIC

Name of artist/Name of CD
Card produced

No Doubt/Return of Saturn
Hare Rush Punch

No Doubt/Tragic Kingdom
Tiger Lightning

Bunk 182/Enma of the State
Blow Away

Celine Dion/Falling Into You
Golem Roller

Briny Spears/Oops! I did it Again
Naga Whirl Blow

Metallal Justice for All
Phoenix Beak

Beastie Boys/Grand Royal
Tiger Right Claw

Sound Garden/Badmotorfinger
Metalner Yo Yo

Roh Zombie/American Made Music to Strip By
Dino Throw Away

Dave Matthews Band/Crash
Plant Life Steal

Andrea Bocelli/Sacred Anas
Phoenix Mys. Power

Fear Factory/Remanufacture
Mocchi Hide

Brian Setzer Orchestra/Dirty Boogie
Tiger Sonic Move

Guns N' Roses/Appetite For Destruction
Gali Evil Dance

Kiss/Greatest Kiss
Twinkling

Korn/Life Is Peachy
Naga Evil Shouts

Jewel/Pieces of You
Mocchi Roll

Mariah Carey/#1's
Mew Head Butt

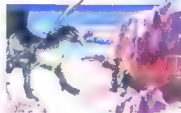
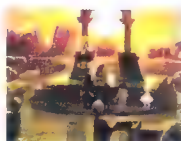
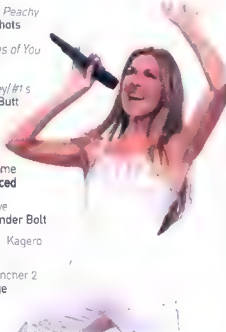
GAMES

Name of game
Card produced

Dead or Alive
Henger/Thunder Bolt

Deception 2: Kagero
Busy Time

Monster Rancher 2
Tiger Charge



Miscellaneous: (1) Inspect the bust in General Viper's room to open the secret door. (2) Place the Decor Shield on the suit of armor that's missing a shield in the armory. Next, push the snake statue into the slot near the similar statue on the right wall to open a hidden door. Finally, inspect the pillar to the left of the switch to shut off the trap in the room you've just uncovered. (3) Inspect the grate outside the guard's quarters to find a way into the basement and from there, the prison. (4) Use the valves to open gates and stop the water's current in the basement. (5) Knock the barrels into the water to create a makeshift bridge. You'll need to leave and re-enter the basement. (6) You'll light the Guillot twice. (7) Walk to the Shadow Forest end of the basement sewers to scare the Gerridae into knocking the chest into the water. Reach it by way of the well. (8) To get the Top Shot, you must return to Norris after rescuing Riddell. (9) If you bring Karsh to the Isle of the Damned (alternate) as described in the letter, you will battle Solt and Peppor (you can do this after you acquire Karsh in Section 36 if you chose Zoah earlier).

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold Items	Stolen Items
Speed (S)	100	Blue	160	Antural Cap, e Blade
Lighter Jaw	100	Red	160	Cap, e Blade
R	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
P	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
P	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
P	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
C	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
C	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
S	100	Blue	160	Cap, e Blade
Peppor	100	Yellow	402	Denadonite, Stone Mail

Section 36 NEW RECRUITS

Location: Hermit's Hideaway (alternate), S.S. Invincible (alternate), Pearly Gates
Plot Progression: Rest for the night at Hermit's Hideaway (alternate), then regroup at the S.S. Invincible. After speaking with Harle at the Pearly Gates, seek the protection of the six dragons.

Possible Party Members: RIDEEL—Joins automatically upon your speaking to her at Hermit's Hideaway (alternate).

GENERAL VIPER—He joins when you find him on the S.S. Invincible.

FARGO—He'll join you just after General Viper.

MARCY—She joins right after Fargo.

KARSH—If you already have Zoah, he'll join after Marcy.

ZOAH—If you already have Karsh, he'll join after Marcy.

Section 37 INTO THE MOSH PIT

Location: S.S. Zelbess, Marbule, Marbule (alternate)

Plot Progression: Have Fargo speak to his alternate self aboard the S.S. Zelbess. Destroy all the monsters in Marbule while Nikki distracts them, then travel to Marbule (alternate) to find the Black Relic.

Possible Party Members: MIKI—Have her join your party upon talking to her in the dining room of the S.S. Zelbess.

PIP—Talk to her in the hold of the S.S. Invincible.

[cont. from page 195]

normally offered by Resident Evil 2, there are a couple of secret characters and special costumes worth finding.

Play as Tofu: This is a bit tougher. Beat three complete games, making sure you get Hunk on your first or second try.

Alternate Costumes: You have to find and kill a hidden zombie. To find him, play through most of the beginning without picking up a single item. Make your way to the front of the police department. When you get to the gates, take the lower stairs around the front yard. You'll find

the zombie there. Once you kill him, go back to the corpse to find a key. They key opens up a locker in a first-floor room below the stairs on the west side of the police department. Open it to find brand new costumes for Claire and Leon. These will give you slight advantage in terms of finishing the game.

Speed Punks

Boost Start: This trick will give you a boost ahead of the other cars when you begin a race. At the start of a race

when the lights start to count down wait until the third red light beeps and then immediately hold the X button. For best results, try holding the X button about halfway in between the third and fourth light.

Instant Turbo Blast: In the middle of a game press and hold the X button and Brake buttons simultaneously. This will turn your car into a turbo car, giving you a complete advantage in most races. (See earlier and Back to Basics.)

ENEMIES					
Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Lagoonate	300	Blue	50	Yellow Plate, Green Plate	100%, Cure All
Black Dragon	4,000	Black	250	Green Cloak, N/A	Black Plate, N/A

Section 38 *HELLISH*

Miscellaneous: (1) Use the Ice Breath to freeze the lava if you haven't done so already. (2) If you enter your world's Mount Pyre after defeating the Fire Dragon, you can now reach chests containing a Red Brooch, Inferno, Weaken and Strengthen.

[illegible]

Section 39 BLUE MEANIE

Miscellaneous: (1) See Sect on 22 for the main item. (2) Tell the Water Dragon you seek. The Dragon God's blessing."

ENEMIES					
Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Laplander	200	Blue	100	100	Medicine, Antiviral Cap
M	200	Blue	100	100	Anti-Red Sea Charm
Water Dragon	200	Blue	100	100	Blue Plate, N/A

Section 40 JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

Miscellaneous: ① Walk into the quicksand to land in the caverns below. ② Once you're blocked by the first Rockroach, leave the island and return to give the explorers time to move it. Push or use the Explosives to move the Rockroaches. ③ Seek "The Dragon God's blessing" upon talking with the Earth Dragon. ④ If you travel to Earth Dragon Isle (alternate) [optional] you'll find a Brace, Capsule and Upheaval, as well as a Yellow element. ⑤ If you don't find the Yellow element, you may have any damage done by its Yellow elements into HP. Defend and answer six questions, choosing the correct colored element if you want, but you'll receive no reward. The sentence is "Yellow, Royal carpet" is Red, First prize ribbon is Blue, Jealous monster is

Green, "Top rank, ." is Black, Knuckles of fear is White

[illegible]

Section 41 LAND OF THE LOST

Miscellaneous: 1) Go Section 17 for the items and enemies found in the Hydra Marshes. 2) To get the Ancient Flute, light the Beeba who appears at the far left. 3) If this is your first trip here, light the Wingoape who arrives when you use the Beeba Flute at the open area toward the top, then return to the far left and light the Beeba near the save spot. Use the Beeba Flute at the end of the branch (where a Beeba is standing) to call the Wingoape a second. 4) You can climb trees and vines in Gaia's Navel. 5) To make Tyrano appear, return to the opening area. When it's quiet, approach the center. 6) With the field entirely green, the Green Dragon may cast Carnivore. 7) Use the Beeba Flute at the spot n Gaia's Navel you were dropped off to get the Wingoape to return.

ENEMIES				
Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items
Forest Charm	589			Forest Charm, Green Brooch
Green Plate				Green Plate, N/A

Section 42 THE FINAL RELIC

Plot Progression: Defeat the Sky Dragon, then head to your world's Guldove

ENEMIES					
Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Sky Dragon	3650	Anti	2150	Saints, N/A	White Plate, N/A

Big Head: Up, Up, Up, Up, R1, R1, R1, Circle.
PaRappa (Flat) Mode: Left, Right, Left, Right, L2, R2, L2, R2, Square.
All Abilities: Circle, Circle, Circle, Circle, Square.

Test Droid Debug Cheat: Go to the main menu screen and move down to the Options. Make sure you don't choose 1 and press Triangle, Circle, Left L1, R2, Square Circle, Left Y. You will hear a confirmation sound now. Now press and hold L1>Select>Triangle at the same time and the screen will change to a Test Droid menu that allows you to choose your starting level, play

Battle Shin Akuma: You must first open up Final Battle Mode by setting the game on difficulty 7 or 8. Once you do this, select Final Battle Mode from the main menu screen. On the character select screen, press and hold L1+L2 and choose your fighter. Keep holding it until the VS. screen appears. You will

Play as Garuda: At the main menu, highlight Arcade and press Select, Select, Select Right, Select Select, Down Select Select Select.

[illegible]



100 Off. J. L. & Econ. Lit. Vol. 34, No. 1, 1996

Section 47 CHRONO CROSS

Location: Divine Dragon Falls (alternate), Hermit's Hideaway (alternate), Lucca's House, Viper Manor (alternate)

Plot Progression: Upon leaving Chronopolis, head to the Divine Dragon Falls (alternate). Place the Tear of Hate and the Tear of Love on the two pedestals inside to receive the Chrono Cross. Sail to Hermit's Hideaway (alternate) once you have it. Skip to section 48 after you get the Chrono Cross. A Kid never joined your party during the game to try to save Kid.

Possible Party Members: Kid—Joins automatically after you rescue her in the past equipped elements. (2) At this point Glenn can draw the Einanzer from his family's grave. (3) The Divine Dragon Falls (alternate) is located slightly northeast of the Arm Village (alternate). (4) Check on Kid to be sent to Lucca's house. (5) You must ride the area nearby of enemies before you can find the children. (6) Climb through the loose floorboard to reach Kid's area. (7) Use the Ice Gun to extinguish certain flames.

Section 48 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA

Location: El Nido Triangle (alternate)

Plot Progression: Bring Starky to the El Nido Triangle (alternate) so you can enter his Spaceship and retrieve an anti-gravity device.

Miscellaneous: Use Red elements to damage the Roy at Jelly After Starky releases the anti-gravity device on your boat, you'll be able to fly to Terra Tower. To get the Star Struck element from Starky's spaceship, you must return to it after landing on it to become Terra Tower.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Mythril Deluge	1000	Blue	1000	Mythril Deluge	Mythril Deluge
Mythril Trap	1000	Blue	1000	Mythril Trap	Mythril Trap
Royal Guard	1000	Blue	1000	Royal Guard	Royal Guard

Section 49 LET SLEEPING DRAGONS LIE

Location: Terra Tower

Plot Progression: Now that the Dragons have shown the true face, use your newly modified boat to fly to what was once the Sky Dragon Isle (alternate). Terra Tower. Seek out the Frozen Flame at its summit.

Miscellaneous: (1) Push the large stone pillars to form bridges inside the tower. (2) In the Viper Manor library area, push the switch on the second level to lower the ladder. (3) Use the teleport pads to reach the upper levels. (4) Defeat Gravitor and Luxator to unseal the doorway leading to the summit. (5) After defeating all six bosses, the teleport pad leading to the Frozen Flame appears.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Terra Tower	1000	Blue	1000	Terra Tower	Terra Tower
Terra Tower	1000	Blue	1000	Terra Tower	Terra Tower

ENEMIES (CONT)

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Cytoplasm	1000	Blue	1000	Cytoplasm	Cytoplasm
Mythril Deluge	1000	Blue	1000	Mythril Deluge	Mythril Deluge
Mythril Trap	1000	Blue	1000	Mythril Trap	Mythril Trap
Royal Guard	1000	Blue	1000	Royal Guard	Royal Guard
Red Field	1000	Blue	1000	Red Field	Red Field
Green Field	1000	Blue	1000	Green Field	Green Field
Black Hole	1000	Blue	1000	Black Hole	Black Hole
Ultra Nova	1000	Blue	1000	Ultra Nova	Ultra Nova
Blue Field	1000	Blue	1000	Blue Field	Blue Field
Sea Charm	1000	Blue	1000	Sea Charm	Sea Charm
Holy Healing	1000	Blue	1000	Holy Healing	Holy Healing

Section 50 WHERE EVEN ANGELS LOSE THEIR WAY

Location: Opasaka Beach

Plot Progression: Once in your world, Opasaka Beach, use the Time Egg at the newly opened red portal to the left to be taken to your final confrontation.

Miscellaneous: (1) Make sure to have the Chrono Cross element equipped for the battle. (2) The good ending is awarded by casting the elements so that they appear at the top of the screen in the musical tone order of the game's theme: Yellow, Red, Green, Blue, Black, White, and the Chrono Cross. This is easier than it seems. To do so, equip the six variously colored elements on level one and two of each character. Equip the six variously colored items of various colors (Heq. All's work well as well as a Revue on each character. During the battle, level each character up to their max mum, then just hang in there until the Time Devourer casts the first two colors. [Defend if it casts Yellow so you don't taint the line] then quickly cast the rest of the elements in the proper order (taking care to not have Serge's stamina level run out before casting the Chrono Cross). Since the Chrono Cross recharges the other elements (which you'll need for the Revives at the least), it shouldn't cost you much more than time—about a half an hour's worth to be exact.

ENEMIES

Name	HP	Innate	Gold	Items	Stolen Items
Time Devourer	10000	Blue	N/A	N/A	Nostrum, N/A



When you press Start again, you should be in the theater. Enter either curtain and all the moves should appear. Press X to skip any of the moves and press Start to go back to the theater.

Syphon Filter 2

Level Skip: Pause the game in the middle of play. On the Pause screen, highlight Map and press and hold these buttons in this order: Right+L2+R2+Circle+Square

With these held, press X. You will hear a sound when entered correctly. Now go to the Options screen and enter the Cheats option. You'll find an option to end your current level and go to the next.

Super Agent: Pause the game in the middle of play. On the Pause screen, highlight Weapon and press and hold these buttons in this order: L2+Select+Circle+Square. With these held, press X. You will

hear a sound when entered correctly. Now go to the Options screen and enter the Cheats option. You'll find an option to turn Super Agent on or off.

Movie Theater: Pause the game in the middle of play. On the Pause screen, highlight Briefing and press and hold these buttons in this order: Right+L2+R2+Circle. With these held, press X. You will hear a sound when entered correctly. Now go to the Options screen and

enter the Cheats option. You'll see an option for movies on disc one or two. Move Gabriel up to the movie screen and press Triangle to watch a movie.

Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? 2nd Ed.

Replacement Names: Go to the Enter Your Name screen. If you enter REG'S PHILB as your name, Regis will say something and deny you for that name. He will

then replace it with another name such as DREAMER, FIBBER, or SMARTY PANTS. If you choose not to enter a name, you will be given a name like EINSTEIN, KATHIE, LEE GELMAN, or CODY. Enter the name: DAN BLONSKY (one of the millionaires winners), will get you the replacement name, PHONY.

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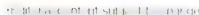
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ADVERTISER INDEX

20th Century Fox	17
Acclaim	32
www.acclaim.com	
Agatec	20-21, 165
Bandai	51, 61
www.bandai.com	
Best Buy	4-5
www.bestbuy.com	
Boston Acoustics	30
www.bostonacoustics.com	
Capcom	87, 89, 103, 177
www.capcom.com	
Crave Entertainment	147, 204
www.cravegames.com	
Creative Labs	123
www.creative.com	
DC Shoes	9
www.deshoes.com	
Ecko Unlimited	189
www.ECKOunlimited.com	
Eidos Interactive	6-7, 14-15, 36-37, 47
www.eidosinteractive.com	
Elanor	191
Electronic Arts	
12-13, 92-93, 113, 115, 117, 119, 128-129	
www.ea.com	
Electronics Boutique	150-151, 163
www.electronicboutique.com	
Electrosource	202-203
www.electrosources.com	
Fox Interactive	154
www.foxinteractive.com	
Infogrames	25, 35, 72-73, 104-105, 179
www.infogrames.net	
Interplay	38-39, 59, 181
www.interplay.com	
Jaleco	67
www.jaleco.com	
Konami	22-23, 90-91, 108-109, 142-143
www.konami.com	
LucasArts Entertainment	44-45
www.lucasarts.com	
Mattel Interactive	74-75
www.mattel.com	
Mattel Toys Inc.	82-83, 100-101
www.matteltoys.com	
Mattel Toys Inc.	28-29
www.lycori.com	
Midway Home Entertainment	71, 159
www.midway.com	
Namco HomeTek	125
Natsume	49
Red Storm Entertainment	99
www.redstorm.com	
Sony Computer Entertainment	
2-3, 78-79, 120-121, 152-153	
www.sony.com	
Southpeak Interactive	81
www.southpeak.com	
SpectraVideo	149
Square/EA	62-63
www.squaresoft.com	
SRS Labs Inc.	33
Take 2 Interactive	
10-11, 52-55, 106-107, 145, 161	
Talonsoft	77
www.empire-us.com	
Tecmo	126-127
THQ	40-41, 65-66, 96-97, 187
Ubi Soft	27
www.ubi.com	
Working Designs	133, 135-137
www.workingdesigns.com	
ZX-DZNet	137

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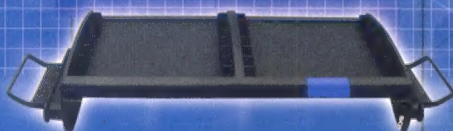
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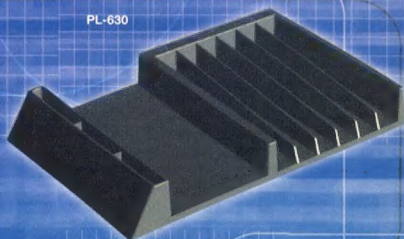
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- Holds up to 14 DVD cases and two PS2 controllers

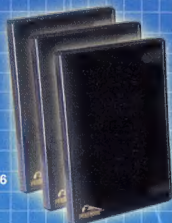
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PlayStation 2 VERTICAL STAND

- Saves Space
- Secures PS2 in it's vertical position

PL-636



DVD REPLACEMENT CASE 3 PACK

- Replaces existing DVD and game cases
- Integrated memory card holder

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- Enhanced Rubber Grip
- Added Comfort

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(Traction Control System)
Minimizes oversteer, improves handling on the tightest curves.

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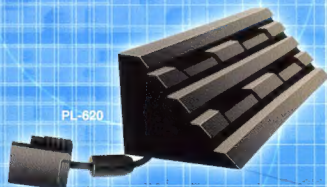
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PL-640

HARD CARRYING CASE

- Great for rental stores
- Holds system, controllers, cables, and memory card.
- Great for travel



PL-620

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- Designer look
- Fits 4 PS2 controllers and memory cards
- Supports PS2 in it's vertical position



PL-625

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PL-611

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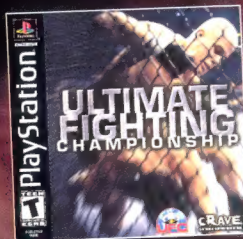
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